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Lawrence Cracks Down on Homeless



PHOTO: COURTESY TURTLE BOY SPORTS




PHOTO: RICH RUSSELL


SEE PAGE 17

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera's office has had enough of the crime riddled area under the Casey Bridge where homeless people created their own "Tent City." Rivera parked a police command vehicle at the bridge to protect the homeless from being exploited and served a no trespass order on "Fat Freddie" Santiago for charging the homeless to sleep under the bridge and use a bathroom.


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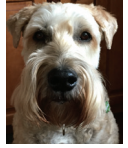
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VALLEY PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

HERO IN OUR MIDST (NO MORE) - EDMUND SOLOMON

METHUEN - This month, The Valley Patriot had scheduled a sit down interview with U.S. Navy War Hero Edmund Solomon. As fate would have it, Mr. Solomon passed away two days before our interview. In his honor, we are publishing his son, Joe Solomon's eulogy from last week. Our hearts and prayers go out to the Solomon family.

EULOGY BY JOE SOLOMON

Hello. As I stand here, I see friends and relatives some that have come great distances to be here for my Dad. I am humbled and impressed at how he must have touched your lives; it would have made him so proud to see you all here. I'm Joe Solomon, Ed was my dad, and my best friend, and this is our love note from me, my mom and my sisters to him.

You see, we had a father for 60 years and have only not had a father for four days, so anything I say today must be understood as the words of a family only four days into a great loss. Losing our dad is one of the most difficult things we as a family have gone through.

As I stand here today, I realize how fortunate we were to have him as our Father. There are not words to express his influence in all 41 of our lives. It is through his example that we all learned to be the fathers, mothers, husbands and wives that we have become.

Today, I will speak about my dad's accomplishments, his loves, his lessons and, his stories that are routed in lessons. I am honored and blessed that my family asked me to deliver dad's eulogy. This eulogy is a compilation of the thoughts,



and conversations and tears we all shed the last few days, while attempting to put into words the immense impact dad has had on all of us and the tremendous loss we feel. While we were writing this we received a call from our family in Lebanon and we reminisced about dad and the impact he had on their lives when they lived in the U.S. In their words "he was a very loved person, who impacted our lives and will be missed endlessly". Dad was always the teacher, mentor, leader and full of affection. These legacies are the greatest things that have been passed down to our generation and have had a magnanimous impact on all of us.

He truly was the king of our family. The name Solomon is defined in the scriptures as: an extraordinarily wise man; this describes dad perfectly. We choose a short passage from the Old Testament that touched our hearts and describes our dad well:

Kings 3:6-15

"Solomon became the wisest man on earth. People came from other lands to ask him questions. He gave them wise answers. Kings and queens came to see him."

Our father was born and educated in Lawrence, where he spent his early years prior to moving to Methuen. Dad began

working at the age of 7 and started his culinary profession at the age of 14, as a butcher for From George. He served overseas during WWII on an LST in the US Navy. Out of all his accomplishments after his family, he was most proud of his honorable service to our country. His service message resonated so deep that many of us, through three generations, have chosen service as our careers.

During his professional career he owned and operated Eddie's Meat and Quality Market and then Eddie's Delicatessen both in Lawrence. He was able to fulfill his lifelong dream of becoming a culinary arts teacher, as well as cluster chairman at the Greater Lowell Regional Vocational Technical High School. Dad was such an immense influence on all of us that some of us have chosen to be business owners and teachers. Regardless of what we have done or are doing for career choices, dad was always there to give us his guidance, advice, mentorship and most importantly his endless love and support. Every success was celebrated and praised and no failure went by without lessons learned and a pick me up talk. God knows I received many of these throughout the last 56 years.

Dad passed on a plaque to me that reads: Solomon

When I gave this name to you it was unsoiled, live your life so that when you pass it on it is as unsoiled as when you received it.

This sums up how dad lived his life every moment, every day and every one of his 93 years.

HERO: PAGE 23

IN YOUR CORNER

“WEATHER 101” WITH AL!

State Senate Passes Youth Group Homes in the Valley and the Commonwealth

Senator Katy Ives
MASSACHUSETTS STATE SENATE

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Department of Mental Health license youth group homes throughout the state that house adolescents removed from their families. Over the past few years, the City of Haverhill has seen a significant surge in calls from group home staff, which are required to report these youth as runaways if they leave the home or leave from school and do not return to the home. The Haverhill Police Department has been tracking the number of calls, and in 2017, they are anticipating a total of about 700 service calls. I was recently notified of this issue by the Haverhill City Council, which is concerned that these service calls are taxing law enforcement resources.

The increase in calls is partly due to the 2012 Child Requiring Assistance law, which prohibits staff at group homes from physically restraining youth attempting to leave group homes. Additionally, a 2014 federal law requires group homes to promptly report unaccounted-for children to police if they are deemed at risk of human trafficking—as residents of these group homes are. Both of these laws strive to improve child safety, but together, they produce situations where staff cannot physically prevent youth from leaving and must report them missing after about two hours. Though it is required by law, it may not be necessary in all cases for police to get involved right away: often, runaway youth

go to the same location, such as a friend or family member’s house, and return shortly after being reported missing. Of course, there are a variety of scenarios, but the common thread is that group home providers and police have very little flexibility to respond in a case by case fashion. These service calls have put tremendous stress on the police department in Haverhill, as well as other communities in the region. It’s notable that this challenge is not specific to Massachusetts. The question of how to respond to youth that leave group homes is a national one all states are struggling with, and stakeholders are working on strategies to address this challenge right here in the Merrimack Valley.

The Haverhill City Council sought an opportunity to discuss the group homes issue with those involved in the matter. My office facilitated a meeting with our state’s Department of Children and Families, Haverhill group home provider NFI, Haverhill Police, the full City Council, state legislators, and the Mayor’s office, with a goal of finding steps to reduce calls reporting children missing in instances where there is no danger to the child. Some abutters to the group homes attended the meeting as well.

DCF confirmed that the runaway issue is challenging statewide and notes that a small number of residents account for most calls. And it was confirmed that the majority of the children residing in group homes in the Merrimack Valley are from the Merrimack

DCF: PAGE 24

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Al Kaprielian
VALLEY PATRIOT WEATHERMAN

Welcome to August, the final month of meteorological summer. Meteorological summer consists of the months June, July and August. So far this summer Boston has had three heat waves, one in May, one in June, and one in July. Despite these three heat waves, this summer has not been as hot as last summer.

Last summer Boston had twenty two days when the temperature reached ninety degrees or higher. The average is 15. Remember, a heat wave occurs when the temperature reaches ninety degrees or higher for three days in a row. Even though a heat wave occurred in July, there were some unseasonably cool days along with rain. One of these days occurred on Monday July 24 when the temperature did not make it feel like July. Some heavy rain also occurred on this day. Then an anomalous ocean storm for July brought flooding rain to the Mid-Atlantic region and also for PA and NJ. Also flooding rains occurred in West Virginia.

An upper level low in southeast Canada causes a more confluent flow to the jet stream which took the storm out to sea. Nantucket Island did get a quarter of an inch of rain from this storm on Saturday July 29. They were the closest to this ocean storm.

The rest of southern New England, including southern New Hampshire, had a high overcast and breezy conditions. We were fortunate to miss this ocean storm because it could have impacted this year’s Lowell Folk Festival with heavy rain. However, this did not happen and this year’s festival occurred with not a drop of rain. The weather was great for this year’s festival with the lack of heat and humidity. I attended the festival on Saturday. This storm caused some high surf for the ocean waters.

There have been a lot of rescues by life-guards at Hampton Beach, New Hampshire this summer due to rough surf producing large waves and rip currents. If you ever get caught in a rip current you should swim parallel to the beach and this will take you out

of the rip current. After the July 29 ocean storm moved away, the Bermuda High Pressure system strengthened once again and extended into southern New England. This brought a return to heat and humidity for August 1st. The temperature reached ninety degrees in Lawrence on Tuesday, August 1st.



An upper level disturbance brought heavy rain and thunderstorms to parts of Massachusetts in the afternoon of Wednesday, August 2nd. Some areas saw over three inches of rain in a short period of time. Other areas hardly got any rain. This is how summertime rain is, not all areas get the same amount of rain. A cold front moved through the area later in the day of Saturday, August 5th. Behind this cold front we saw cooler and less humid air. During the first full week in August the Bermuda high pressure system was suppressed south of New England again. The upper level trough which has frequently visited us this summer with cool temperatures returned again.

Time will tell if we see any ninety degree or higher temperatures this month.

During the month of August we should begin to see the tropical regions become active with the development of tropical depressions, tropical storms, and hurricanes.

The peak of hurricane season runs from mid-August to mid-September. During August, ocean temperatures are much warmer than they are in June and July. These warmer ocean waters help tropical systems develop and become more frequent during August into September. By next month’s article we could be busy talking about tropical storms and hurricanes. Time will tell how this evolves this year. The average high temperatures start to fall into the 70s by the end of August.

So if you have not made it to the beach yet, time is slowly running out. The sun is not as strong or as high in the sky compared to June and July so this will cause our temperatures to cool by later this month into September. Enjoy the rest of the summer because it will pass by quickly. I look forward to next month’s article and a wrap up on the summer of 2017.

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Remembering Caitlin Trask

NORTH ANDOVER - Last month, a veterans group called Honor and Remember presented the Honor and Remember flag to goldstar parents Mary and Don Trask of North Andover. Their daughter, Caitlin Trask, was a member of the United States Navy in February of 2009 when she was murdered by her ex-boyfriend, also a U.S. serviceman.

The Honor and Remember flag is personalized flag with the name of the deceased service member, and is presented to the gold star families - those who lost a loved one in service of their country.

“This is done to remind these incredible families that we do not forget them or their loss as time goes by,” said Massachusetts Secretary of Veteran Affairs

Francisco Urena. He added that the flag is of no cost to the families.

North Andover Veterans’ Services Officer Gerry McGuire said that it was truly an honor to be able to participate in the presentation ceremony, which was held at the North Andover Senior Center.

Also attending the event were State Senators Kathleen O’Connor Ives and Bruce Tarr as well as Register of Deeds M. Paul Iannuccillo.

The Honor and Remember Flag was created to serve as a national symbol that specifically acknowledges the sacrifice of men and women in the United States Armed Forces who have given their lives for their country in over two centuries of America’s history.



Lawrence Voters Speak Out on Banning Pot in Lawrence

Kathy Runge
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

The marijuana public hearing at the council meeting of July 11 was even more excruciating than predicted. It was over four hours long with people speaking about anything and everything marijuana related except the issue that was being voted on.

The ordinance to prohibit any business involving recreational use of marijuana passed unanimously in an 8-0 vote, with Councilor DePena being absent. After the vote people were still sitting in the chambers, so an announcement was made to tell people it was over and the ban passed. The announcement was made in English, so it wasn’t a language issue. The audience probably just had to be woken up.

I must admit that I didn’t watch the entire hearing, or even half of it. From many

of the comments I did hear, I think most people believe that it is now illegal to possess and use marijuana in the city. It sort of makes me want to sit on the front porch and..., well, you know.

Councilor DePena was absent, probably on his annual month long vacation in another country. I don’t care where he goes on vacation, but don’t think a councilor should be unavailable for an extended period of time.

After that hearing, the council bounced around the agenda. Many city workers and members of the public were kept waiting until after midnight to be heard.

Some public hearings started after midnight. Aside from the complete absurdity of this and the contempt this shows for the public, it raises some interesting questions. How public can a hearing be if it starts at

such a late hour?

Public hearings are required by law to be advertised in local print media and posted. Is the vote legal if a particular date is advertised and the hearing isn’t held until the next day?

Then, at 1:45 am, the council had to try and decide when to have their next “regularly scheduled” meeting. They decided on August 15 as far as I could tell. Then, unbeknownst to regular council meeting attendees, they snuck in a meeting on July 18 where there were only two items on the agenda.

At the beginning of the year, the council needs to decide upon their summer schedule and let the public know. Their lame excuse about the summer being a slow time is obviously not true. They do this for their convenience, so councilors can go on vacation whenever they want and claim that they didn’t know when the meetings were.

I asked the candidates for Councilor at Large to give one or two specific goals that they want to accomplish if elected that they couldn’t do or would be much harder to do

as a private citizen. Here are the answers of those who responded:

Fran Allen Acosta:

I want to bring an era of self-sufficiency to the City of Lawrence fueled by the cooperation of government, private business, non-profits and everyday people.

These missions manifest itself in initiatives like - working with the school department to offer contracts to local food providers, then connecting these small business with local investors who can help them scale up to meet the demand.

Another initiatives - is building a database of skilled labors in the city who can offer their services whenever the need arises. As long as buildings are getting developed we want local people to be getting possible jobs.

I want to develop a self-sufficiency plan for the City of Lawrence, where we look at what are our needs and what’s the investment strategy we should approach in order to have local control. Lawrence having a municipal electric company will be good

LAWRENCE: PAGE 24

Battle of the Bands & Veterans Rally in Lowell Aug. 26th

John MacDonald
VALLEY PATRIOT LOWELL COLUMNIST

On Saturday, August 26th from 11am to 6pm, Veterans Assisting Veterans (VAV) will be hosting its very first Veterans Rally and Battle of the Bands. The event will be held at Holy Ghost Park in Lowell, MA at 65 Village Street, right next to Cawley Stadium and off 495. Holy Ghost Park can accommodate thousands... and thousands of people is what is expected as the organizers of VAV Veterans Rally and Battle of the Bands have organized one heck of an event.

At 11am the Battle of the Bands will start and run until 2pm, when a break from the music will usher in an hour-long Veterans Rally. The Rally will feature some tremendous radio talent from around Massachusetts. Headliners are Howie Carr, Michele McPhee, “The Guy from Boston” Joe Ligotti and the Valley Patriot’s Tom Duggan. In addition, Candidate for US Senate and longtime veteran supporter, Geoff Diehl, will be addressing the crowd.

Before and after the Rally, attendees will be treated to some really great bands. “Heaven Help The Fool”, “Bo Joeman and the Sarcasmatics”, and “The Zeal” will be playing and rocking the crowd. Some of the band members of these groups are veterans themselves and have often been the opening acts for major bands and concerts around the country. This is just the venue to see some major bands before they hit it big

in the music world.

Admission to the event will be \$10 per person. Kids under 12 are free. Attendees can expect to see t-shirts for sale and can participate in a 50/50 Raffle. Beer, soda, and water, along with hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage, pepper and onions will be on hand at an affordable price. Department of Defense - 50 Year Anniversary Vietnam Veteran pins will be on hand and awarded to any Vietnam Veterans that attend the event. In addition, a bevy of Veteran Service Organizations will be on hand and manning tables for those veterans curious about services available to them.

VAV is 100% volunteer and 100% of the proceeds raised at this event will be donated to Ironstone Farm in Andover. Ironstone Farm administers a PTSD equine therapy program for veterans and First Responders. Ironstone Farm is currently in a campaign to complete the funding for a new field house that will allow the families of veterans and first responders to stay overnight and enjoy a weekend retreat. VAV and the Owl Diner helped launch the First Responders Program. The PTSD program is free of charge to veterans and first responders.

Motorcycles and motorcycle groups are welcome to the event. Questions about the event can be directed to Tony Palmisano at 617-769-1737. Corporate Sponsorships are available. Also, check out the latest updates of the Rally (which will be rain or shine) on Facebook/VeteransAssistingVeterans.

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New Hampshire Hypocrisy: A “Drug Den” When Convenient

A few months ago the governor of New Hampshire called out the City of Lawrence as the source of their “drug crisis” and “opioid epidemic”. He painted a picture of NH as a drug infested den with heroin and fentanyl pouring in from neighboring Lawrence, killing people “at a record rate”. It was an accurate portrayal. Immediately on cue, Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera - and other Lawrence officials - took the usual defensive position and whined that Lawrence was being “picked on.” He then tried to paint Lawrence as the victims, saying the governor was “kicking Lawrence while we are down”. NH officials shot back, saying that NH is identifying the problem, and that Rivera should be focused on solving the epidemic, rather than denying Lawrence’s part in it. They were right, of course. Rivera and other Lawrence officials grandstand far too often, eager to hide behind the city’s “good citizens”, but in doing so are really just denying the monumental problem of Lawrence being the hub of drug

Valley Patriot Editorial

distribution for most of New England. Fast forward to last week, when someone leaked top-secret transcripts of a conversation between President Trump and the president of Mexico. In that conversation Trump is quoted as telling the Mexican president that he won NH because it is a “drug infested den” and that those drugs are coming from Mexico. “It has to be stopped,” Trump told him. The media played up the comment as Trump “bashing” NH and “insulting” them. That wasn’t the case. The president was simply trying to hold Mexico accountable for the drugs that end up in NH, but the feeble minded grandstanders took the ball and ran with it anyway. Officials in NH, particularly the governor, had a chance here to walk the walk, and do what they advised Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera a few short months earlier: stop overreacting, stop playing the victim,

and embrace the reality so we can solve the problem. “YES! We have become a drug den thanks to the cartels in Mexico; thank you Mr. President for advocating for us,” should have been the response. Instead, self serving officials in NH did the same stupid thing Mayor Rivera did. They circled the wagons, treated the leaked comments as an attack on poor NH, ignored the part where President Trump was trying to HELP their state, and started pandering to NH voters as their superhero-defenders. One NH official even tweeted photos of pristine scenery with a caption that said NH is beautiful and “not a drug den”. NEWSFLASH NEW HAMPSHIRE... yes you ARE! The fact is, we are under attack in New England by criminal drug cartels from other countries who laugh at how many people “drop dead” from their poison every

day. We are not under attack by President Trump. Similarly, Lawrence wasn’t being “attacked” by the NH governor. Lawrence is, however, being attacked every day by the Dominican and Mexican drug cartels. We cannot fight them - much less solve the heroin, fentanyl, or carfentanyl distribution problem in New England - if officials in each state are running around playing theater games for the press, crying about perceived insults. So, just stop it! We are highly disappointed that officials in NH chose to paint their state as a drug infested den when it suited them, but then whined like a Lawrence politician when someone adequately parroted their own assessment of what is going on. Wake up New Hampshire! If you start acting like Lawrence politicians it won’t be long before you get the same results they got in Lawrence. It’s time to start walking the walk and take your own advice. Admitting the problem is the first step to recovery!

Too Big To Fail Lives on in 2017

Duncan Burns
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

What if someone told you that since 2010, a banking company has been caught for: Foreclosure fraud, student loan abuses, money laundering, whistle-blower retaliation, violation of Americans with Disabilities Act, employment discrimination, wage & hour violations, Service Members Relief Act violations, Family Medical Leave Act violations, anti-trust violations, False Claim Acts violations, “Redlining”, and several other banking violations? One would think for all those abuses there would be a long line of people either indicted, arrested, or already in prison, right? Wrong. In this case, the bank in question is Wells Fargo (WFC), and the cost of doing business by way of fines is just over \$11 billion dollars since 2010, including no jail time for any executive. Even more recently, and covered in a June 14, 2017 piece by The New York Times, Gretchen Morgenson, Wells is accused of modifying mortgage loans without borrower approval. The result would put borrowers into bankruptcy, while Wells profited from false documented modifications. The pattern of abuses, with just this one bank is systemic and a part of their corporate culture. Why? Because The People tolerate it. How? By continuing to elect those into office who look the other

way, or legislate protections for serial offenders like Wells Fargo. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at both the state and federal level(s), is no different. Massachusetts State Legislators have taken nearly seventy-thousand dollars in political campaign contributions over the years from Wells Fargo. Boston Mayor Marty Walsh received just under five-thousand dollars, and Governor Charlie Baker received just over ten-thousand dollars from Wells Fargo donors. As for Massachusetts Members of Congress, since 2010, Wells Fargo doesn’t skimp there either. Representative Richard Neal took the lion’s share of donations with just over twenty-four thousand dollars deposited into his campaign coffers, and so-called anti-Wall Street Crusader Senator Elizabeth Warren accepted just under seven-thousand over the years into her campaign bank rolls. Of note, The Third Districts and Merrimack Valley’s own Niki Tsongas took in just under one-thousand dollars. One of the largest beneficiaries of Wells Fargo fraud and criminal complicity has been none other, and Democratic Party supporter, Berkshire Hathaway’s Warren Buffet. How you ask? Per Berkshires latest Securities and Exchange Commission’s (SEC) 13F filings, Buffet’s second largest holding, just behind Kraft Heinz (KFC) is WFC, 479,704,270 shares worth, or just

FAIL: PAGE 24



Food for Thought: The Revolving Test Kitchen!

LAWRENCE - Launched on December 1, 2016, the Revolving Test Kitchen (RTK) is an incubator and pop-up restaurant, located in the heart of downtown Lawrence at Northern Essex Community College’s Common Street campus. The objective of the RTK is to provide restaurant entrepreneurs with a trial run of their ventures and also contribute to Lawrence’s economic development. This collaboration between Lupoli Companies, the City of Lawrence, The Lawrence Partnership and Northern

Essex Community College (NECC) is a pilot program that has already helped one local food entrepreneur get the jump start he needed. RTK’s first enterprising tenant is Ray Gonzalez, owner of Coco Rays, a “taqueria borinquen” that serves a variety of Mexican cuisine including tacos, burritos and quesadillas. In less than one year, Ray has turned Coco Rays, a former restaurant food truck business, into a brick and mortar

FOOD: PAGE 24

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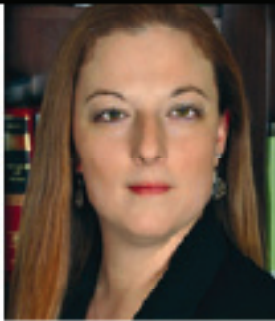


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Methuen Police Lt. Joseph Aiello Receives National School Safety Award

METHUEN -- Mayor Stephen N. Zanni and Chief Joseph Solomon are pleased to announce that Methuen Police Lt. Joseph Aiello was awarded the 2017 National School Safety Award.

Lt. Aiello received his award earlier this week at the School Safety Advocacy Council's 12th annual National School Safety Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. During the ceremony, honorees from across the country were recognized for their exemplary accomplishments in the area of school safety and security. The convention is the largest exhibition centered around all aspects of school security and is the only one focused on student safety from kindergarten through college.

"I would like to congratulate Lt. Aiello on receiving this prestigious award," Mayor Zanni said. "We are honored to have Lt. Aiello serving the City of Methuen and our schools, and we are very proud of him for this outstanding achievement."

Lt. Aiello is a 23-year veteran of the Methuen Police Department and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant earlier this month. He serves as the department's school service unit supervisor and previously as the school resource officer. Lt. Aiello also coordinates the Methuen Police Explorers program and is a member of the Northeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council School Threat Assessment and Response System.

"Lt. Aiello's decade of school safety



Left to right: Methuen Police Lt. Joseph Aiello and Curt Lavarello, Executive Director of the School Safety Advocacy Council at the National School Safety Conference. (Courtesy Photo)

training and experience has elevated him to a nationally recognized expert in school safety and security," Chief Solomon said. "His vision and knowledge make him a sought-after lecturer and trainer, and his dedication to school safety is a major asset to the City of Methuen."

Lt. Aiello graduated from the University of Massachusetts Lowell with a master's degree in criminal justice. Prior to joining the Methuen Police Department, Lt. Aiello served as a U.S. Navy Seabee with the rank of petty officer third class.



Courageous Advocates Give Critical Testimony on Disability Abuse Registry

Linda Dean Campbell
STATE REP. METHUEN, HAVERHILL

Many of us in the Merrimack Valley know individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities in addition to knowing family members, friends, and professionals who care for them. While most caretakers do amazingly compassionate work every day to assist those in need of around the clock care, there are a few who choose to take advantage of one of our most vulnerable populations by physically, sexually, emotionally or financially abusing them.

In many instances families do not become aware of abuse until it has occurred for an extended period because often disabled individuals who suffer are unable to easily communicate what has been done to them.

There is a gap in our system of protection for vulnerable individuals which allows caretakers that have abused their former patients to seek employment elsewhere with no central registry available to alert a new employer of the caretaker's previous misconduct. It is time for Massachusetts to join the twenty other states that already have some form of an impaired adult or developmental disability abuse registry.

Cheryl Ryan Chan shared with us the story of her disabled son, Nicky, who had fallen victim to abuse. Cheryl received a copy of a report from the Disabled Persons Protection Commission (DPPC) that explained how Nicky had been horrifically abused on more than one occasion at his day program and when she asked about what was in place to prevent abusers from seeking employment at another

provider she was told there was nothing. Nicky's story is just one of many tragic accounts presented at the hearing and is the reason why I filed H.80, An Act to establish a registry of caretakers found to have substantiated abuse against persons with intellectual disability or developmental disability. This legislation would create a comprehensive registry for individuals with substantiated abuse records.

The push for the legislation started in July of 2016 with the release of a federal audit of group homes that serve individuals with disabilities in Massachusetts. Following the release of the report, the Boston Globe reported that the U.S. Inspector General uncovered disturbing information and statistics in relation to abuse conducted by employees of Massachusetts group homes. The report from the IG indicated that 58% of emergency room visits from the group homes involved reasonable suspicion of abuse and neglect between January 2012 and June of 2014, but were not reported to an investigator, which is a violation of their Medicaid waiver.

This legislation is a collective effort between the ARC of Massachusetts who worked for two years to draft this legislation, state agencies that will implement this legislation, and disability providers. The MA Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the Disabled Persons Protection Commission are supportive of this legislation.

It is accepted that there are not enough resources dedicated to implementing a robust inspection program. This legislation is important because it aims to prevent abuse.

The legislation will now be considered by the Committee on Children and Families and Persons with Disabilities. I am very encouraged by the support of state agencies concerned with implementation and the early hearing that this legislation received.

State Representative Linda Dean Campbell represents 15th Essex which includes the cities of Methuen and Haverhill. She can be reached at 617.722.2380 or Linda.Campbell@mahouse.gov or representative.linda.campbell@gmail.com She currently serves as the Vice Chair on the Committee on Revenue.

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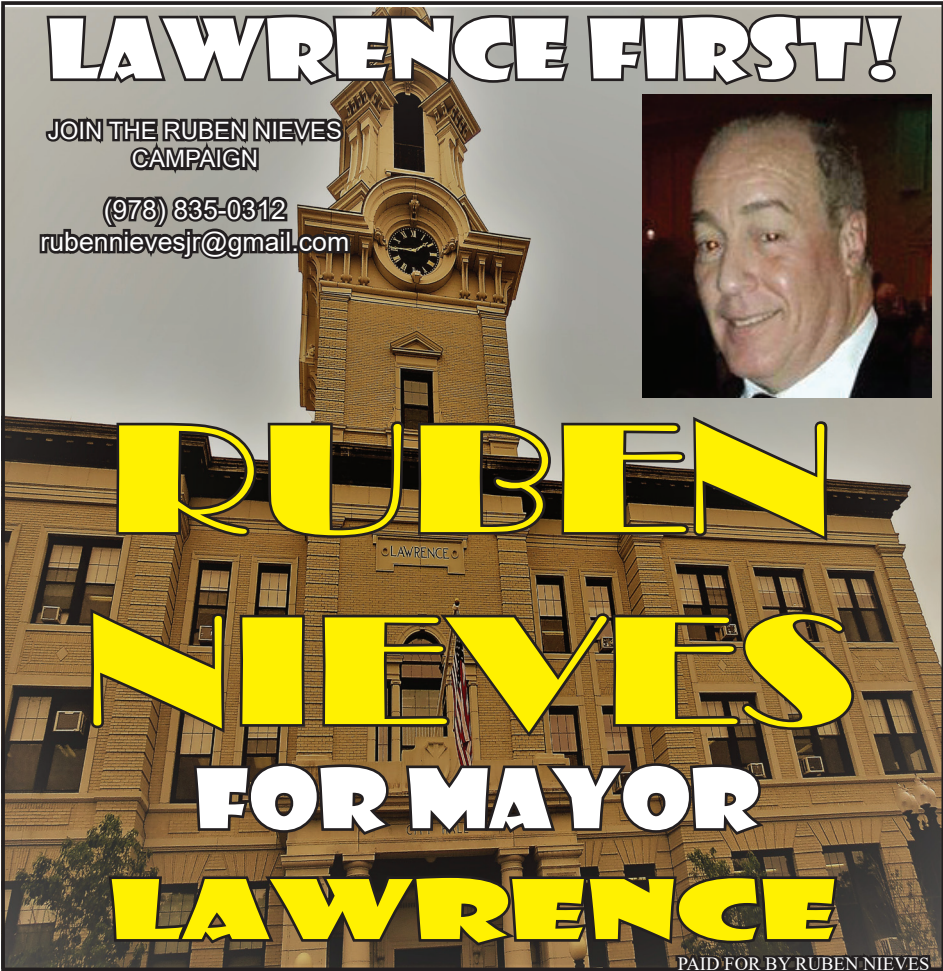
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TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK

THE END OF TENT CITY... OR IS IT?

It was long overdue but Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera’s decision to shut down the homeless encampment under the Casey Bridge called “Tent City” showed a real stroke of genius. For years, the so called leaders in Lawrence shrugged their shoulders and mouthed platitudes like “it’s complicated” or “we’re working on that”. Year after year, election after election, the situation got worse. By parking a police command vehicle, manned with Lawrence Police Officers under the bridge, The City of Lawrence is providing protection for the homeless who want to sleep in peace without being beaten up or extorted.

The situation under that bridge was not only a public health emergency but a haven for crime and the exploitation of the city’s most vulnerable population. People with addiction problems, mental health issues, and a myriad of social problems were living in the worst conditions imaginable and to top it all off the “mayor” of Tent City, Fat Freddy Santiago was charging homeless people to sleep under the bridge. He was even charging them to use the Port-O-Potty donated by our good friend Joe D’Amore of Groveland. Now that Tent City is being manned by police, Fat Freddie has chosen not to leave the city, and has set up shop behind McDonald’s on Essex St. Too bad he didn’t get the hint the first time. Stay tuned.

DEMPSEY’S REPLACEMENT
By now most of you know that Haverhill State Rep. Brian Dempsey is stepping down in the middle of his elected term. That means there has to be a special primary election in October and then a final election when the city votes in November when the municipal ballots are cast. Running as a Democrat is our good friend Paul Magliochetti. He is a moderate who is fiscally conservative and socially liberal. He is facing Abel Vargas who is known to my readers as the guy who went on Facebook to warn MS13 gang members and other criminals that federal officers were doing a roundup in Haverhill. Yeah... pretty despicable. I don’t know if any of the other candidates care enough about the safety of Haverhill residents to make this a campaign issue, but it would be journalistic malpractice for me not to bring it up.

HEEEES BAAAACK
Consummate Haverhill candidate Shawn Toohey has dropped out of the city council

Methuen K-9 Duke Tracks Tewksbury Robber Resulting in Arrest

It was Wednesday, July 26, 2017 at approximately 7:30pm when Methuen K-9 Duke and his handler Officer Matthew Mueskes were called to respond to Market Basket, 10 Main Street in Tewksbury, to assist in the search for a robbery suspect. The robber had just robbed Market Basket and fled on foot.

Duke picked up and tracked the suspects’ scent for over a quarter of a mile, leading officers right to him, as he hurriedly crossed a McDonald’s parking lot. The robber was detained and ultimately arrested.

Duke was donated to the Methuen Police Dept. by Mike Jones, DVM of Glen Rose Texas. Duke has been with the Methuen Police Department for two and a half years. He is a three and a half year old bloodhound trained in human trailing. When not working or relaxing, Duke likes to play in his yard chasing squirrels.



race and decided to run for Dempsey’s state rep. seat as a republican. This time, Toohey has a legitimate chance. If the democrat voters nominate the far left leaning Abel Vargas, Toohey will look like a moderate in the final and give him a realistic shot at a seat on Beacon Hill.

LAWRENCE ELECTION NOTES
First off, I am not covering the Lawrence School Committee races because the Lawrence School Committee has no power and is only ceremonial. In fact, it may be time to think about doing away with the Lawrence School Committee and move to an appointed oversight board. Given the monumental failure of the voters in Lawrence to adequately run their school system for more than 20 years, I think it’s time we stop doing the same thing over and over expecting a different result.

MODESTO MALDONADO - We are not sure if Modesto Maldonado has straightened out his issues with the state’s Office of Campaign and Political Finance (OCPF), but the last time we talked he told me that the issue was a “mistake” on the part of OCPF and would be straightened out “soon”. OCPF sent Maldonado a letter a few months ago stating that he had failed to account for some of the donations made to his campaign.

JORGE JAIME - Jorge Jaime is riding high these days as the perceived front-

runner among those challenging Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera. But Jaime and his supporters are still unhappy with the fact that Rivera “reassigned” Jaime to the cemetery from a spot at DPW. They are also not happy with the fact that Jaime’s campaign manager Joel Chalas - who also works for DPW - was blamed for DPW workers cleaning a lot that belonged to a private citizen. Jaime supporters say emails show Chalas was ordered to clean the lot and that any confusion of the issue should be the responsibility of his superiors, not his. One supporter said that they believe Chalas was “set up” because of his involvement in the Jorge Jaime campaign.

SPEAKING OF PRIVATE PROPERTY
Kudos to District B City Council candidate Francisco Paulino who broadcasted live on Facebook last month as Lawrence DPW workers were caught cleaning private property. Paulino claimed that the property being cleaned by city workers was that of his opponent, incumbent city councilor Estella Reyes. Documents provided to The Valley Patriot showed that Reyes did own a portion of the property, but documents later provided to us showed that she no longer owns it. Either way, city workers were cleaning a lot owned by a private citizen. We are still sifting through emails and phone logs to get to the bottom of who set up whom here. For now, we know that the union is grieving it and will let you know what develops.

THE RACE TO WATCH
While many people are focusing on the At-Large City Council race in Lawrence, the real race to watch is the district A (Prospect Hill) section of the city. Incumbent City Councilor Myra Ortiz is facing three difficult challengers. The most formidable is Maria De LaCruz. De Lacruz works for State Senator Barbara L’Italien and has been a staple at union rallies and political campaigns for decades. Without a poll telling me differently, I would say Maria is probably the front runner in that race. Also running to unseat Ortiz is Richard Rodriguez, husband of Lawrence City Councilor Nilka Alvarez-Rodriguez. Richard is an attorney and has been on the political scene for years, as has political activist Anna Levy. If the election was today, it would most likely be Ortiz vs. De LaCruz in the final election. But a lot can happen between now and then.

YOUNG PEOPLE STEPPING UP IN METHUEN
This year has seen a rise in community activism in Methuen with four young newcomers who have a legitimate chance of winning a seat on the city council. Eunice Zeigler is 29 and running in the East District, Ryan Hamilton (19) running for At Large City Council, and Ryan DiZoglio who is also running at-large. Jessica Finocchiaro, who represents Methuen on the Gr. Lawrence Technical School Committee is running a strong at large city council race and is looked up to by some of the younger candidates as she was in her late 20’s when she was first elected. At 30 years old, Finocchiaro seems the most likely to get elected in November but a very small turnout could make this anyone’s race to win.

STOP CANCELING PRIMARIES
You can’t put a price on democracy. So, just stop it already. There is no legitimate reason to cancel a preliminary election. I don’t care how much it saves the city. The preliminary elections in Methuen are all cancelled again this year except for the East District Race. This is a travesty. The preliminaries are when average voters can look at the field of candidates and decide to mount a write-in campaign to have their names appear on the November ballot. If Methuen held a primary in the mayor’s race (right now there’s only one candidate) someone in the community might step forward and decide to challenge Jajuga at the last minute. The same goes for the Central and West District council seats, as well as the school committee. The only thing canceling a primary does is deprive the voters a REAL choice to just ... pick someone else. Methuen voters need to speak up more forcefully on this issue. There is going to be a charter change coming. Stay involved and pay attention!

CHALLENGING FLAWED THINKING
You may have read our editorial last month about state democrats banning the use of hand held electronic devices while driving. Our position is that “progressives” in the state legislature who cry about police officers having too much discretion to racially profile black and Latino drivers, yet tripped over each other to pass a measure that would do exactly that. A few days after our editorial came out I asked State Senator Barbara L’Italien if she thought passing a measure giving police more discretion to pull over minorities factored into her thinking when she supported the hands free bill. She kept repeating over and over that she believes it’s “about public safety” and never actually addressed the question at hand. I suspect if you ask any of the “progressive” democrats on Beacon Hill who supported this bill you will get the same answer. That’s because the Democratic Party has two completely opposite positions when it comes to governing. On the one hand they believe the police are a bunch of racists who look to gun down poor black men for sport. On the other hand, they sure do love all that revenue a hands free bill is going to bring into state coffers for them to spend.

First offenders for “touching” your phone even while stopped, would be issued a \$100 fine, 2nd offense would be \$250, and a 3rd offense would be a \$500 fine and would be considered a moving violation and a surchargeable event for

NOTEBOOK: NEXT PAGE

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FREDDIE SAYS

**“Dont’ forget the rally
for local veterans at the
BATTLE OF THE BANDS
in Lowell on Aug 26th!**

**SEE PAGE 4
FOR DETAILS!”**

**Freddie also Says
EAT AT THE DAILY DOSE
CAFE at PENTUCKET MEDICAL
IN LAWRENCE
978-557-8601**

auto insurance purposes.

SPEAKING OF THE HANDS FREE CELL BAN – When I first read the bill to ban hand held cell phones and other electronic devices while driving, I was all for it. With current technology that allows you to make phone calls and send text messages with a voice command, there’s no reason to be holding your phone while driving. We have all seen the statistics of road fatalities. However... our sources on Beacon Hill say that there’s a move afoot to sneak a provision into this bill that would also ban touching your phone while stopped. When I approached several legislators about how this lacks common sense, I got pushback from all but one of them. This is another case of state officials having a good idea that addresses a serious public safety issue, and then taking one step too far. We have all seen the bumper to bumper traffic on Rt’s 93, 495, 3, and 95. If you are sitting at a long light or in a traffic jam, there is no legitimate reason to fine someone \$300 for picking up their phone and maybe, recalculating their GPS to get out of traffic. But, don’t tell that to our area legislators. Once they see themselves as the authority on our safety, they just can’t help themselves but to go too far.

HOT RACES IN METHUEN

The hottest race in Methuen by far is the East District City Council race. With Tom Ciulla and Ron Marsan prevented from running again because of term limits, there are two open seats. There are five candidates running for these two seats. one will be eliminated in the September 26th preliminary election. They are: Steve Saba, Eunice Zeigler, Adam Chiocca, Dan Grayton, and Sid Harris.

NOTICE FROM THE HAVERHILL POLICE - FOUND PROPERTY

On July 29th, a bag containing multiple smaller bags was found in the area of Lansing Ave. and Lowell Ave. Inside the bags is a substance we believe to be Heroin. If you are missing some Heroin and believe this to be yours, you can claim it at the Haverhill Police Department, 40 Bailey Blvd. Please bring Photo ID.

NOTICE FROM ALL THE OTHER POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN MA

Us too.

STATE POLICE MOURN LOSS OF SGT. ANDREWS

It is with great sadness that the Massachusetts State Police note the passing

of Sergeant Michael Andrews after a valiant battle against cancer. Mike, who was assigned to the State Police Detective Unit for Hampshire-Franklin County, epitomized the highest ideals of service to his profession and his family. He was a true gentleman, a devoted family man, a dedicated Massachusetts State Trooper, and a constant source of happiness and laughter to all of his friends. When Mike was diagnosed with his illness, he fought it ferociously, typical of how Mike lived his life – with passion, optimism, and great strength. Mike will be dearly missed by his State Police family, and our prayers are with his beloved wife and daughter. We are grateful to the many members of the State Police and Mike’s countless other friends in Team Andrews who stepped up and supported him and his family in this difficult time.

AROUND THE VALLEY

6TH ANNUAL 9/11 MEMORIAL 5K ROAD RACE is Saturday, Sept. 16th.

This wonderful tribute event is sponsored by the Lawrence Police Department and the Lawrence Fire Department. The event will take place at the Reliefs In, 1 Market Street, Lawrence, Mass. Proceeds go to the 9/11 Memorial Fund. Entry fees for the road race or the fitness walk are \$20.00 in advance (plus processing fees) and \$25.00 on race day.

There is a free 1k kids run (you can register your child on race day). T-shirts will be given to all those registered by August 1st in the 5k events. Age group awards for the 5k race in all major age categories and also firefighter, police, veteran and active military categories as well. Post-race refreshments and entertainment. Flat, friendly course. Great for personal best or first time runners. Fun starts at 10am festivities, 10:30am start of race.

Details and registration: http://www.lightboxreg.com/9-11-memorial-race_2018?mobile=0

Here are the links to your race website and the online registration page. www.yankeetiming.com/web-sites/2017/911 and www.lightboxreg.com/9-11-memorial-race_2018

GLCAC HOME SAFETY REPAIR PROGRAM FOR SENIORS - The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc. is now accepting applications for Project SENIOR, a free home safety repair program for residents 60 years and older living in Andover, Lawrence, Methuen, North Andover.

Project SENIOR helps senior citizens live safely in their homes by fixing common safety problems that can lead to injury. Examples include:

- Broken steps, decks and ramps.
- Missing or loose handrails.
- No shower or bathroom grab bars.
- Clutter that poses a trip hazard or blocks an exit.
- Malfunctioning bathroom fans.

The deadline to apply for assistance is Dec. 31, 2017. For more information or to apply, contact Anthony R. Bruno at 978-681-4956.

RED SOX INVITE NORTH ANDOVER HIGH STUDENTS TO SPEND SUMMER AT FENWAY PARK THROUGH STUDENT 9’S PROGRAM

For less than the cost of a movie ticket, North Andover students can enjoy the magic of Boston Red Sox baseball at Fenway Park this summer. The Red Sox are offering young fans affordable tickets to games through the team’s Student 9’s program, which provides high school and college students the opportunity to purchase \$9 tickets with a valid student ID at every home game.

“We want to make sure that this new generation of fans finds Fenway Park accessible, affordable, and enjoyable. It’s essential to the future of our game,” said Red Sox President Sam Kennedy. “We introduced the student 9’s to remove cost as a barrier for students, and allow for

Yankee Homecoming Free Luncheon for Local Veterans

Don Jarvis
VALLEY PATRIOT VETERAN COLUMNIST

On August 1, 2017 Yankee Homecoming hosted their annual Veteran's Luncheon. This event was started by Frank Ventura, a Korean War veteran and long time Newburyport resident. It was sponsored by his son Dan Ventura at Fairway Mortgage of Newburyport.

It's been an honor to carry on this great tradition started by Frank. This year, over 120 veterans and their guests enjoyed a delicious meal at the Veteran Luncheon. The meal consisted of Pulled Pork sandwiches and coleslaw from Rusty Can in Byfield, MA. The salad and vegetables were donated by Vets & Veggies in Athol, MA. The coffee was donated by Battle Grounds Coffee Company in Haverhill, MA and Cares O-lot Confections donated a delicious American Flag cake along with other assorted desserts. Family and friends also donated desserts and other items.

Veterans who served from World War II to the recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan were served lunch by over 20 volunteers. There were several volunteers from the Yankee Homecoming Committee, employees from Fairway Mortgage, Turning Point and Domino's Pizza. Several family members and friends also volunteered their time to help make this lunch a great day for our veterans. Fire Fighters from the Newbury Fire Department supported the event as well.

The lunch was so delicious that several veterans had two, three and even four pulled pork sandwiches. The cake went quickly and the coffee was so good they drank it all - not leaving a drop. Everyone who left was filled with joy and a good meal. All the volunteers were truly amazing and hospitable providing a great atmosphere for our veterans.

This year the Veteran's Luncheon was held at the Newbury Firefighters' Memorial Hall on Morgan Ave. The United States Coast Guard provided the Honor Guard and Marianne Talty from Salisbury, sang the National Anthem beautifully. Among those in attendance who showed their support were Senator Bruce Tarr, Dennis Marcello from Senator Kathleen O'Connor Ives office, State Representative Lenny Mirra, State Representative James Kelcourse and Newburyport City Council.

LUNCHEON: PAGE 24

the spontaneity of deciding to come to a game last minute. Students can now come to Fenway Park for less than the cost of a movie ticket and with little advance planning.”

Student 9’s are the lowest priced tickets at Fenway Park and provide access with guaranteed standing room tickets and the potential for an upgrade pending availability.

Young fans can register to receive student offers by visiting redsox.com/student or text ‘students’ to the Red Sox at 23215 to sign up for alerts at any time.

Student tickets will be delivered to mobile devices or available through the Ballpark App. Students can scan their ticket directly from their phone when they arrive at the ballpark gates, and are asked to bring their student ID for verification to gain entry.

Student 9’s are part of the Red Sox’ “Calling All Kids” initiative, an ongoing effort to connect baseball to the next generation of fans. Calling All Kids aims to provide greater access to Red Sox games, enhance the kids experience at Fenway Park and celebrate the game of baseball in the community.

CANN FAMILY STEPPING UP!

Frank Cann, owner of Coffee Cann Café in Lawrence, and F. H. Cann & Associates, Inc of North Andover, decided the best way to conquer the overwhelming and helpless feelings brought on by news that his daughter’s fiancé was battling pulmonary hypertension (PH), a progressive, debilitating and life-threatening disease was to fight back.

More than 130 people living with PH and their families and professional caregivers were on hand to hear Cann share the story of how he channeled his love and compassion for Kara and Ernesto into activism and advocacy. Cann was the key note speaker Saturday, July 29, at PHA on the Road in Providence, R.I., a free Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA) day-long education, networking and support event. As the nation’s leading PH organization, PHA delivers integrated patient and health care professional programs that advocate for patients, catalyze research for a cure, empower PH patients and caregivers, and enhance patient care.

“You don’t know how to fight back,”

Cann told the crowd. “PHA has wonderful resources to help you get through the emotional setbacks that happen when you’re first diagnosed.” PHA captured Cann’s remarks on Facebook Live.

Weeks after he proposed to Kara Cann, Ernesto Benscome learned what doctors had told him for two decades was asthma was in fact, PH. Common symptoms of PH include shortness of breath, fatigue and chest pain and consequently, the disease is often misdiagnosed. This leads to delays in proper diagnosis and treatment, costing patients valuable time. PH can present alone or with other illnesses, including congestive heart disease, connective tissue disorders, COPD and many other diseases. It affects infants, children and adults of all races and ethnic backgrounds. Without treatment, median age of survival for those with pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH), one form of PH, is only 2.8 years from the time of diagnosis. However, with early and accurate diagnosis, treatments can extend and improve the quality of life for many living with the disease for decades.

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Farmer’s Market Bringing Life to Downtown

“The North Andover Farmers’ Market has been a tremendous success for the downtown area,” says Selectman Phil DeCologero - one of the members of the Downtown Merchants Association and the North Andover Farmer’s Market.

“We started June 25th, and we go to October 8th. So, it’s 16 weeks. It’s funny,” he said. “People talk about these events helping the mom-and-pop stores on Main Street, but every business seems to be getting the benefit of this. I mean, CVS had to add a whole new employee this shift because of the increased traffic. If you look, the CVS parking lot is full here today.”

DeCologero said that the success of the farmer’s market was largely due to the cooperation of Tina Messina of Wine Connexions, and owner of the CVS Plaza. “She’s been on our planning committee since day one.”

“I have to give credit to Dick Vailencourt, too; he was down here this morning with his truck helping us set up the tents as he does every week. Regina Kean has brought her whole



family down here. Chris Nobile was down here volunteering, and Chris Allen who has helped us tremendously.”
The North Andover Farmer’s Market received a \$15,000 grant from Lowell Five Bank. In April,

Dave Wallace, Linda Firth, North Andover Branch Manager, Steve Ventre, SVP Commercial Lending, and Jay Stephens - CFO, all presented a check to members of the North Andover Farmers’ Market Planning Committee

at Lowell Five Bank’s First & Main ATM Plaza.
Lowell Five serves as the exclusive sponsor of the North Andover Farmers’ Market.

Jillian’s Nail Spa on Main St. Opens Under New Ownership

Jillian’s Nail Spa, located at 140 Main Street in the heart of downtown North Andover has recently changed ownership. Nina Ho has left the salon, named for her daughter, in the capable hands of Victor Ton.

Building on more than a decade of experience and commitment established by Ho, Tam brings his own fresh perspective to the salon. Upon entering, the client immediately notices the chic updated interior. Central to this is a large tropical aquarium with vibrant colors designed by Ton himself.

The peaceful environment is increased by fresh paint, new mirrors and lighting, as well as unique sinks shaped like leaves. The atmosphere is enhanced by soothing music and a new flat screen television to catch up on the news or your favorite show.

One cannot help but relax in such tranquility which is second only to the quality of the service. In addition to the traditional manicure and other options always offered at Jillian’s, the standard pedicure now comes with hot rock treatment—a soothing option for tired feet!



In addition, Ton’s specialty is pink and white powder which produces beautiful French tips! Eyebrow and eyelash services are offered, as well.

As always, the case at Jillian’s, a premium is placed on clean, sanitary surroundings. Instruments are sterilized after each treatment and in keeping with this priority

Ton has purchased a new oven.
You cannot help but feel welcome by the warm demeanor of Ton and his staff. Choose from a variety of salon treatments and a broad palette of colors available in both gel and standard nail polish.
The experienced staff is eager to accommodate your every need as Ton is committed to build on Ho’s five star reputation of superior service. Bridal and birthday parties are welcome by reservation and Ton is particularly interested in increasing the amount of walk-in clients. To encourage this, he has brought additional employees onboard with a no wait policy as often as possible as his goal.
Ton and his staff are happy to fulfill individual requests and look forward to serving you seven days a week.
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An Open Letter to Haverhill Mayor James Fiorentini

Dear Mr. Mayor,

You speak of "The American Dream" But,I need to ask you how are the citizens that rent or live in poverty in the City Of Haverhill even start thinking of living "The American Dream". They have roofs leaking on there heads,they watch their children shiver due to inadequate heat during the winter months or having to deal with bugs and rodents because of theoverflowing dumpsters. There are rental properties all of the city that are ill maintained and have numerous code violations.

Property owners/landlords are called, city health department is called and nothing comes out of it. Posts are made on social media to bring your attention to the ongoing issues at these rental properties. What is your response to this? You start private messing the person (me) that started the post, "While on a beach in Bermuda". Your exact words sir. Of course the first message is a generic message And I quote " If we can assist you please do not hesitate to call. Just call 311 and they will connect you to our health inspectors who will go out and take a look at this. Fortunately, I do not allow our inspectors to access Facebook during work time so they will not be able to see this but we are there to help just call 311 and we will send inspector out."

As the thread got bigger and citizens

started to post their opinions, issues with rentals, the city, and you (yes some unpleasant words were used towards you. Which I unlike you paid no attention to) your message tone completely changed and a comment you posted then deleted was nothing more then a child's temper tantrum(photo of comment).

You asked me to take down the original post because I commented that you were in Bermuda so I deleted my comment off the post. You asked if I was going to attend the housing meeting and I did in hopes of meeting you and speaking with you. Instead you avoided me at all costs. I post on FB how I thought the housing meeting went well. I also stated how I was disappointed that you avoided me. Your response to this was (insert last message thread).

And, Mr.Mayor what did I ask of you? To help the citizens that live at these rental properties and hold the owners accountable for the condition of their properties.

Still waiting for the man that calls himself mayor to help the citizens of Haverhill. Maybe he will after he is done with ribbing cutting ceremonies, naming trails after himself,shaking hands and kissing babies. Plus, adding more rental developments when the city has many beautiful empty factories and buildings that could be used.

Deidre McAleer, Haverhill

Lawrence Mayor Removes Campaign Rival From City Position

Just two months before the September mayoral primary in Lawrence, embattled Mayor Dan Rivera has removed one of his campaign opponents from his city job of DPW foreman, and transferred him to the position of Acting Cemetery Superintendent.

Jorge Jaime, who is running for mayor against Rivera, says the move is political.

JAIME CLAIMS RETALIATION

"It's retaliation," Jaime told The Valley Patriot.

"I didn't represent any inconvenience for him before, but now I'm in the race and doing my thing, and I'm working hard. So, I think he saw I am viable and people are coming to my campaign, and he's trying to hide me over there at the cemetery."

Jaime says that moving him from a protected union position to a non-protected, non-union position might also be a way for the mayor to get rid of him later.

Rivera sent the letter to Jaime around 10am, Tuesday morning notifying him of the move. Jaime reported for work in his new job shortly thereafter.

In response, however, Jaime wrote the mayor that he had no experience in being a Cemetery Superintendent, and that even though the position was a bump in pay of more than \$20,000, he likes his job as DPW foreman, adding that he had recent-



ly lost a baby and does not feel comfortable working around grieving families.

MAYOR SAYS IT'S NOT POLITICAL

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera told The Valley Patriot the issue had to do with filling a needed slot at the cemetery at a time when there is a dire situation.

"It's not political. I'm giving him a

JAIME: PAGE 27

Moran On Minority Pot Dispensaries and Lawrence's Pot Ban

By: Tom Duggan – July 29, 2017

Last week the Lawrence city council voted to ban the sale of marijuana within the city limits.

The unanimous vote (9-0) came after a full night of public debate and discussion from Lawrence residents with impassioned pleas on both sides of the issue. In the state ballot referendum last year Lawrence voters rejected legalizing marijuana 13,677 votes against and 9,890 in favor.

While Lawrence and other minority communities in Massachusetts are banning marijuana dispensaries and marijuana sales, the Black and Latino Caucus in the House of Representatives (MBLLC) has added an amendment to the bill that would make it easier for minority communities to open marijuana dispensaries. The chair-

man of that committee happens to be State Rep. Frank Moran of Lawrence. MBLLC Marijuana Bill Press Release-FINAL

"The MBLLC worked hard to ensure that our constituents have the opportunity to realize the full economic development potential the marijuana industry holds", said Representative Frank Moran (D-Lawrence), MBLLC Chair.

Moran said that the inclusion of diversity language and licensing provisions restore equity in communities "harmed by disproportionate marijuana prosecutions."



The Valley Patriot was curious about these conflicting actions of local vs state government on the issue of Marijuana so we asked Lawrence State Rep. Frank Moran why the state legislature, specifically the MBLLC seems out of step with what their minority constituents want.

Moran said that he 100% supports and represents what his constituents in Lawrence want.

"They (the caucus) brought some great ideas to the table. As a caucus we did

a press release on the issue. During the debate we decided to add an amendment for more minority opportunities in getting a license to sell [marijuana] in the districts that have passed marijuana sales."

MORE LOCAL CONTROL IS ALWAYS GOOD

"How this law works is, the cities and towns that voted in favor of the state ballot question have to allow marijuana dispensaries and sales of marijuana in their communities. That is, unless they have another local ballot question and the voters decide to change their minds and ban the sale. I believe this is the way it should be. It should always be up to the voters at the local level."

MORAN: PAGE 27

Magliocchetti Seeks To Replace Dempsey at the State House

Paul Magliocchetti has been a member of the Haverhill School Committee for eight years. He ran unsuccessfully for state senate. Magliocchetti practices law as a partner at Sheehan, Schiavoni, Jutras and Magliocchetti, LLP. Shortly after getting elected to the school committee, he joined the board of directors for the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce. He was invited to join the board of directors for Bethany Homes. He has also been a Little League coach, soccer coach, hockey coach, and was a member of the Kiwanis Club.

Why are you running?

"I'm running because it's a position I've always had an interest in. I've been good friends with Brian Dempsey over the years and worked closely with him while I've been on the school committee. I'm at that point in my career where I've accomplished a lot. I've run a manufacturing business for more than 10 years. I've had great success there. I built my home in Haverhill where my wife and I raised our kids. And I'm a partner in

a great law firm. I believe some great things are happening in this city and I believe in strong leadership at the statehouse to keep it going."

Do Black Lives Matter or do cops lives matter?

"All lives matter."

Magliocchetti said his top priorities are job growth, public safety and education.

"There's certain legislation that binds all three of those. If we work on education laws, a city like Haverhill has a lot of affordable and low income housing units and they are high density units. I think the state needs to weigh that more heavily in their education funding formulas. We're absorbing a lot of sub-groups of people from other communities. Studies



have shown people from low income backgrounds need to perform better in our schools and need more resources."

"By addressing that, you are now dealing with a crossover to public safety because when you are taking care of these sub-groups, they are the same sub-groups that are having issues with the law. Kids end up getting into trouble as teens and when they drop out they become a problem as adults. It also helps with job growth because, by putting the resources into these kids at an early age and keep them on the right track, we have a more qualified workforce, which means we can grow the local economy.

We asked Magliocchetti what he

thought about illegal immigration and sanctuary cities since one of his opponents - Andy Vargas - favors sanctuary cities and even posted a warning to criminals on his Facebook page when Law Enforcement was doing raids in Haverhill. [A Sanctuary City protects violent criminals like rapists and wife beaters - who are here illegally - from being deported once they have been arrested at the local level.]

"I am not for sanctuary cities. I don't think Haverhill should be a sanctuary city. I believe in following the laws of the land. I don't have a problem with the local police working with the feds. That being said, I do believe that people have rights and we have a moral obligation to take care of people. The question is, are you here for the right reasons or the wrong reason? I'm not for rounding them all up and locking them up. I don't think that serves anyone. We need to find out who the immigrants are. All immigrants need to register with the government so

MAGLIOCHETTI: PAGE 27

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PROUD DAD!

Lawrence Police Officer John Tully pins a badge on Haverhill’s newest police officer Katelyn Tully. Katelyn is the Tully family’s fourth generation of law enforcement. Congrats Katelyn!!




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An Interview with East District Council Candidate Eunice Zeigler

Twenty-nine year old political newcomer Eunice Zeigler says she has the experience and education to lead Methuen on the city council as an East District Councilor.

Zeigler, a homeowner who works for the Lowell Housing Authority, says she is running because Methuen needs new leadership. She was also the financial manager for the Haverhill community development department.

"I feel like Methuen needs new leadership. I'm well versed on the issues. I really want to make a difference, and I'm qualified to do so," she told The Valley Patriot.

Zeigler has a bachelor's degree in political science and a masters degree in economics, something she says better serves the voters of Methuen.

"With my education and experience in municipal government, I know I'm one of the most qualified candidates for city council in this race."

Incumbent East District councilors Tom Ciulla and Ron Marsan are prohibited from seeking a third term because of terms limits, leaving two open seats in the east. Zeigler faces three other candidates in September primary; Dan Grayton, Steve Saba, Adam Chioka and Sid Harris.

Zeigler says she has a passion for a variety of issues.

"As I am talking to voters door to door, I'm letting them know I'm running on agriculture, sustainability, education, tax feasibility."

The most basic, simple principal is being sure we are making reasonable tax policies that don't use Methuen tax payers as scapegoats. The fact that Methuen is growing affects the taxpayers and the services they receive."

Zeigler said she wants to make sure Methuen gets all the assistance it can get when it comes to grant writing for the schools.

"That applies to community development as well. We need to take advantage of everything that's out there to make sure Methuen stays on track."

Zeigler added that one idea she is really excited about came from talking to local business owners.

"I feel that especially in east district, we have an opportunity to bring business

leaders together to try and keep businesses here, thriving and bring in more businesses. We have to look for ways to support one another. Along the Merrimack St. corridor we have Pleasant Valley Gardens. They are a thriving farm for over 100 years. It would be wonderful if the restaurants and stores along that corridor

had a partnership with the farm to create a sense of business community."

Zeigler says she has spoken to many community leaders and they are excited about the idea as well.

"I'd really like to see that take off at the end of the day it could generate a lot of revenue for the city and better support our schools, help us to repair our roads. We have to start looking at ways to make us economically viable and self-sustain-

ing."

SCHOOL FUNDING

Although there is a school committee in Methuen, the city council votes on the school committee budget. Most councilors are uninvolved in the school budget, but Zeigler says that won't be the case if she is elected.

"When we talk about all the development taking place in the city, we have to understand that we are creating a foundation for more families to come and live here. Their children will go to our schools, so we have to make sure that the educational resources we have for them are going to be able to support that growth."

"I'm not saying throw money at the schools, but we need to make sure our kids have the resources and that parents have more choices in their kids' education."

"My number one goal is to be a strong voice for Methuen. That's what I've been telling people door to door and that's what I firmly believe. I want to make sure every decision being made for the voters and taxpayers are working in tandem with the other projects and goals in other areas."

Eunice Zeigler grew up in Methuen and graduated from Methuen High School in 2006. While a student there she was involved in extracurricular activities such as track and field, peer leadership, adopt a grandparent, the Methuen choir, and the high school band color guard.

To learn more about Eunice Zeigler you can find her on Facebook.



An Interview with At-Large Council Candidate Ryan Hamilton

Nineteen year old Ryan Hamilton says he wants to represent Methuen on the city council and with only four people running for three open seats in the at large race, Hamilton says he likes his chances.

Incumbent Jen Kannan is seeking reelection, Ryan DiZoglio, Jessica Finocchiaro are also seeking one of the three open seats.

"I'm the only one in this race who has never run for anything before," Hamilton says.

Adding that his youth and inexperience may be strength in this race. "If I win, I will be voting as one of nine councilors. I don't have some of the history with city workers or other officials, so I can work with anyone."

Hamilton said he is basing his campaign on community engagement, public safety, education, and small business growth.

"I think what makes me different than the other candidates is that I'm not going to guarantee you that I'm going to do everything by myself. I want to work with my fellow council members and state officials and make it a real team effort."

"In terms of public safety, we need to take a good look at state grants and expanding our innovation. I know representatives Campbell and DiZoglio are doing a great job, but I want to let them know there are issues the state and feds should be funding for Methuen instead of burdening the Methuen taxpayers."

Hamilton said that he liked Chief Solomon testing the use of body cameras for police officers, adding that there are grants and private foundations that may pick up the cost of equipping all the police with body cameras. "We should be the model for the country. Chief Solomon is doing a fantastic job of keeping our police up to date in the age of technology. Without creative ways to get outside funding we could get left behind."

Hamilton said being young gives him a different perspective.

"I know we need a youth center in Methuen. We need more activities for kids. I know that Lawrence opened a gym at night with police funding through a state grant. Lawrence police let kids play basketball at night. This should be funded in Methuen too. We need to give kids a place to go so they are not getting in trouble, give them a chance to see – in an environment that is very anti-cop, that the cops are not

their enemies. They are there to help us. They are fathers, husbands, coaches; they are here to protect people."

Hamilton's father is a Lawrence Fire-fighter.

CALLING FOR AN AUDIT

One thing Hamilton seemed the most animated about was the idea of an audit for the city.

"I'd like to see an audit right away. I think we need to know what we are dealing with. We are going to be voting on future budgets and the city needs to audit everyone's budget so we can find out where the money is going. I hate waste. I hate wasting taxpayers' dollars. People work hard. At the end of the day, if elected, if I find the Methuen schools are using their money appro-

propriately and the money is going where it should, and want more money I'm 100% ok with that. But, being new to politics I want to know where the money is going. Not just in the schools but in every department. I know it's going to upset the establishment but, when you invest in a company you want to know where your money is going. I have no problem upsetting the establishment. I don't work for the insiders I work for the taxpayers."

Hamilton says that small business growth is a "huge and beneficial part of the city". Look at small businesses like Borrelli's, Mann's Orchard, The Irish Cottage; they are the successful small businesses driving our local economy. We need to work with the mayor to ease their tax burden and bring more small businesses into our city. We have to do without adding a tax burden to our residents."

IS METHUEN GROWING TOO FAST?

Our rate of growth is too high. I would agree Methuen is growing fast. I wouldn't say it's not manageable, but right now there's no plan to manage it. I have no problem with the city growing, but manage the growth. We have to expect that we are going to grow. That means more families coming in and we have to have a plan to expand school space and other services to the new residents. We need a plan, so that all of a sudden, we aren't surprised one day with an average class size of 35 kids a class. With a plan, we can be ready for that. We can plan for more fire and police protection; expand those departments ac-



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Rivera Cracks Down on “Tent City” Homeless Encampment - No More Feeding The Homeless

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera's new “Homeless Coordinator” Anil “Nilly” DaCosta has issued a new directive to manage the ongoing problem of dozens of homeless squatters living under the Casey Bridge. The encampment, known as “Tent City” has been a haven for drugs, prostitution, and other crimes in the past three years, something DaCosta says cannot be tolerated any longer.

The new directive says that any organization or individual who wants to donate food or items must register with the city and check in at the new Lawrence Police command center which was placed under the bridge at Tent City on Wednesday. Mayor Rivera says the police command center will be manned with an officer “24-7 until further notice.”

“We are doing this,” DaCosta said, “because the encampment has gotten more and more out of control as time goes on. There are lots of people going down there to bring things like food and clothing and furniture. As of today, anyone who wants to provide any kind of services down there will have to register with me and check in with the police when they get there.”

MAYOR SAYS GOAL IS TO DISCOURAGE ACTIVITY AT TENT CITY
Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera says the

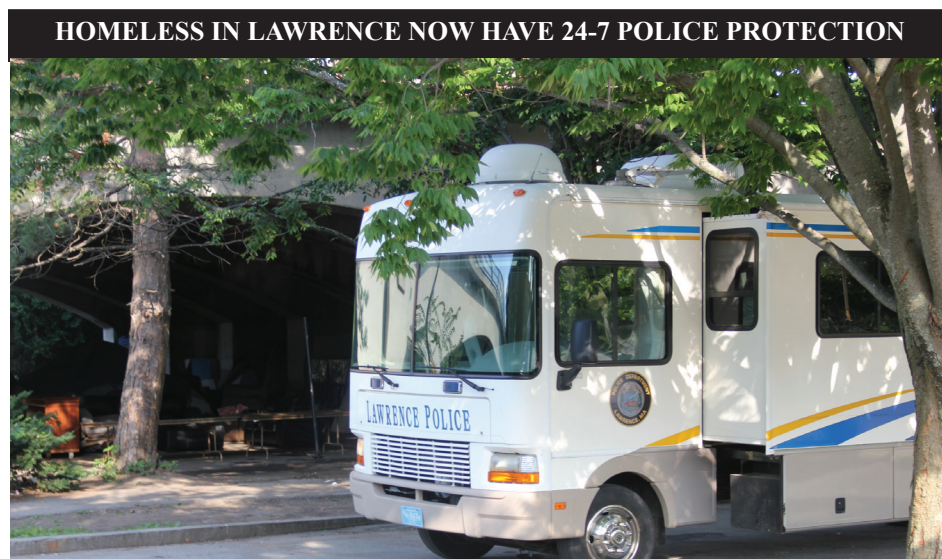


PHOTO: RICH RUSSELL

people of Lawrence have had enough with the situation at Tent City and it's his responsibility as mayor to do whatever he can to solve the problem.

“This is really something the state or the federal government is better equipped to deal with. We just don't have the resources to manage this. So, we are doing the best we can. This is not a humane place for anyone to be. Nobody would want a member of their family under there, believe me. They need to come out and get the social services and treatment to start putting

their lives together. The official policy is not to encourage people to be down there. Also, if you are a criminal, you can't be down there. If there's a warrant or you are a known criminal you are getting locked up.”

Rivera says that if people really want to help the homeless at Tent City, through an agency or a church, they can help get someone out from under the bridge. “Help find them a place to be. Help them get to an AA meeting; bring them support by way of getting them a place to stay. Help

them get health or mental health services.

The mayor says that the situation will be reevaluated to see what progress is being made.

YOU WILL BE TURNED AWAY

Asked what would happen if someone tries to feed the homeless or make a donation without his permission, Homeless Coordinator DaCosta said they will be turned away.

“They will be asked to leave by police. We have a command unit down there as we speak. You can only provide a service there if you are registered with me. No more people driving down there dropping off furniture or clothing. If people or organizations in the community can give real services like, case management, testing, psychological evals and so forth, real services, then fine. But, what we have found is that the homeless don't feel the need to try and access the services they need, or go out to get clothing or other things; then they are being enabled and it does more damage than good.”

“We have to take control of what's going on down there and see how this takes effect. Will they seek resources on their own? Will they stay down there all the time like they are now? My guess is no.

HOMELESS: PAGE 19

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IN THE GROOVE with Cindy Annis

Jerry Lee Lewis, Part II

Cindy Annis

VALLEY PATRIOT VINYL COLUMNIST

Hi folks, thanks for joining me for the rest of the great, Jerry Lee Lewis. So, we last talked about the Million Dollar Quartet. At that time, Jerry was just a studio musician, but he was well known for his performances at local bars and other small-time performances.

In 1957 things started happening in a big way. "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On," and my Dad's favorite, "Great Balls Of Fire" were two of Jerry's biggest hits. A lot of people didn't like his style, or some of the lyrics, but these two songs brought him international fame. He was sometimes billed as "Jerry Lee Lewis and his Pumping Piano!" Imagine, people said these songs had undertones of sexuality so bad that some radio stations wouldn't even play them. "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On" went on to be put into the Library of Congress as one of the songs so great it should be preserved for all time! This happened in 2005.

One of Jerry's good friends was Johnny Cash. It is said that Jerry told Cash that his music was getting in the way of his religious convictions. He thought his music was sinful and it was, "...leading him and his audiences straight to hell." He thought the lyrics might be a little rough, but his performances were what troubled him. He was a "wild man" on stage. Doing things like pounding the keyboard with his fists and playing the piano with his shoes and his butt! He even, occasionally stood on top of the piano and used both feet to make his music. He accidentally knocked the piano bench over in one of his shows, but it added to the frenzy of the crowd, so he left it in the act and used it to turn on the crowd!

These kinds of performances troubled Jerry, but he was giving the crowd what they wanted. This didn't help his personal life. By 1958, Jerry had already been married three times. All this background life stuff was hidden from you and me until his third wife. He married Myra Gale Brown. She was his 3rd cousin once removed. The fact that she was his cousin wasn't even the big problem. The fact that she was only 13 years old is what did him in! He, she, and his publicity people tried to sell her as being 15. Would that have really mattered? He was 22 years old. The negativity was enormous. He had to cancel his tour after only three concerts. All of this news broke while on tour in London.

He came back home after the tour cancellations. And all that news followed, right behind him. Radio stations were the first to respond to his marriage. They stopped playing his songs all across the

states. Then his "people" started leaving him. Even his record label stopped working with him. He definitely learned who his real friends were. Jerry lost just about everyone, but, Alan Freed stuck by him. Rock & Roll, Alan Freed continued playing and promoting Jerry during these dark times.

Jerry all but disappeared from the world for a while. He continued to record with Sun Records because of his contract and released a few good songs. Sam Phillips, the big boss at Sun Records, opened up a couple of modern day facilities, one in Memphis, and the other in Nashville. The studio in Nashville was where Jerry went back to work. He did a cover of Ray Charles' "What'd I Say," in 1961. It did alright, and over in the UK he was having some good feedback on "Sweet Little Sixteen," in 1962, and "Good Golly Miss Molly," in 1963. Back here in the states, though, he was still on the slide. He did a boogie version of "In The Mood," under the name, "The Hawk". As soon as the radio DJ's realized who the Hawk was, they pulled the record.

Jerry Lee Lewis left Sun Records in 1963, and signed up with Smash Record. They were a subsidiary of Mercury Records. He did some recording there, but nothing that would bring his career back to what it was. Smash came up with a song for Jerry to record. "I'm On Fire" sounded just like the kind of song to revive his career, and he might have hit it big except for one thing. The Beatles and the British Invasion moved into town.

Jerry did have a success or two during these dark times. One of those was a recording called, "Live At The Star Club, Hamburg." Produced by Siggi Loch, it proved to be a huge success for Jerry. Rolling Stones Magazine called it "...a crime scene as Jerry slaughters his rivals in a thirteen-song set." It was rivaled by nothing of its day. All this attention was in Europe, because his contracts said it couldn't be released here in the states.

Jerry was soon to be released contractually from Smash Records when he got a call from Eddie Kilroy. He was a promotions manager. He suggested Jerry try the Country Music Circuit. He said, "why not." So, Jerry recorded the old Jerry Chestnut song, "Another Place Another Time," and it flew up the country charts in March of 1968. Other producers and many country hits later, he was invited to play the Grand Ole Opry. Of course, the memories of when he was a teenager and he tried the Nashville group, he was turned down and basically told where to go with his lawless music. But Jerry was magnanimous and he played the stage. Usually the play time was about 18 min-

LEWIS: PAGE 27

TV TALK WITH BILL CUSHING



'Master Of None': The Best Show You're Not Watching

Bill Cushing

VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST



Today's TV landscape offers many choices for the discerning viewer. So, while it's understandable that some shows get overlooked by many people, it does surprise me when an excellent show of high quality isn't watched more.

Netflix's Master of None is one of those shows. I talk to a lot of people about TV, and I was surprised when I discovered that virtually everyone I asked wasn't watching this superb comedy series.

The series is the brainchild of comedian Aziz Ansari. Ansari created, produces, writes, and stars in it. Season 1 of Master of None was very well reviewed by critics and even won the Critic's Choice Award as best comedy series.

As good as season 1 was, season 2 was even better. In season 1 we were introduced to 30 year old New York actor Dev Shah (Ansari), and his friends Denise (Lena Waithe), Brian (Kelvin Yu) and Arnold (Eric Wareheim). We also get to meet his charming parents, played by Ansari's real life parents. Season 1 showed Dev as he struggled to find steady work, and a steady relationship.

In Season 2 we find Dev in Italy taking a break from NY. The season opens with the wonderful episode "The Thief," that shows Dev's life in Italy, and is filmed entirely in black and white. In fact this season has several standout episodes that I would put right up there with some of the best episodes of TV I saw all year. "New York, I Love You" tells three loosely linked stories about three different people living in the city: a doorman, a young deaf woman, and an immigrant cab driver. The portion of the episode about the young deaf woman named Maya is brilliantly filmed completely without sound, using sign language and subtitles to convey her experience as a

deaf person. "Thanksgiving" is a coming-of-age tale spanning 22 years that follows Dev's childhood friend Denise (a terrific Lena Waithe) and her road to coming out as gay to her family. Both installments are beautifully shot and deeply humane, focusing on characters of color whose stories rarely appear in TV or film, in part because of their ability, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

In "First Date," Dev goes on a bunch of Tinder dates and slowly comes to realize that the woman he really wants to be with, Francesca, is engaged to another man. Francesca (Alessandra Mastronardi), his Italian friend, looks as if she's stepped straight out of a classic Italian film from the 1960s. They're great together, like a lot of the same things, and laugh at the same things. Dev clearly has feelings for her, and she feels the same for Dev, but she's engaged.

Ansari's Dev is still unquestionably the heart and soul of Master of None. But there are episodes like the aforementioned "First Date," and "New York, I Love You," where he lets other characters take control of the spotlight. By doing so, Ansari is reminding viewers that it's okay to be curious about the lives of others. Ansari is a charismatic and lovable performer who can easily carry the show on his own. That he chooses not to, is exactly what makes Master of None so special.

Master of None also has something that is becoming increasingly rare in TV today, likeable characters. Lately it seems TV is full of anti-heroes and unsavory and loathsome main characters. With Master of None, you get characters that you can really care about and root for.

Both seasons of Master of None are available to stream on Netflix.

If you have any questions about TV you can email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.

Follow me on Twitter @BillsTVTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion.

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HOMELESS: FROM PAGE 17

But what it comes down to is this, there's a lot of crime going on down there and some people make it look like they are bringing donations and they are really bringing drugs."

"I think Pemberton Park right there on the river, is one of the nicest parks in the area. But, people feel like they can't go down there and enjoy it because of the activities that go on down there. That needs to change."

DAYBREAK OFFERS TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR PEOPLE AT TENT CITY

Carina Pappalardo, CEO of the Greater Lawrence Psychological Center – and the Daybreak homeless shelter – told The Valley Patriot that the new regulations for Tent City are something she is willing to help accommodate.

"Daybreak will help anyone and everyone who needs assistance, whether it's food or resources. We already provide dinner, but we would be happy to start serving lunch on the deck at Daybreak. We can serve as a drop-off spot for food or clothing, where donations can be made specifically for individuals under the bridge who need assistance," Pappalardo



Officials say "Fat Freddie" Santiago was charging homeless people to sleep under the Casey Bridge. He has been evicted from Tent City but taken up residence a few blocks away.

said. On a daily basis, The Greater Lawrence Psychological Center in Lawrence provides medical assistance, paralegal assistance, housing and employment assistance, and help for women who have been in abusive relationships.

"I want to let people know that, given the situation down there, instead of bringing people lunch down at Tent city, they can drop off food at Daybreak shelter on 19 Winter Street, and we can provide lunch here for people who need a meal."



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Beneath the Surface

Eavesdropping on a Young Couple

Paul Murano
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Eavesdropping on a Young Couple

The following is a Socratic dialogue of a typical young couple having an atypical conversation. That is because it contains wisdom, intelligence, and virtue – three things civilization is built upon but are often missing today. Common sense can seem strange to a people conditioned by false ideas and subjective morals. Let us listen in on their personal dialogue...

John: I love you.

Jan: No you don't.

John: I don't? What do you mean I don't?!

Jan: You may be attracted to me or feel an emotional high about me, but you don't love me.

John: You're being silly. I know how I feel about you.

Jan: But love isn't a feeling.

John: Of course it's a feeling. What else could love be?

Jan: It's an act of the will, a choice or decision. We share feelings and passions with other animals. They're involuntary, temporary, and fleeting. Love is personal, which means it necessitates a free choice of commitment to the good of the other.

John: Hold on now; aren't you being a little dramatic?

Jan: No. Are you willing give up your individual interests, and even die for me if need be?

John: Now you're being really dramatic.

Jan: Not at all. There may be strong physical and emotional feelings between us, but without that irrevocable commitment you only love things about me, not me.

John: I don't get it. I've always been good to you, haven't I? I've always told you how beautiful you are.

Jan: Will you love me if I gain 70 pounds? If I get cancer and need a double mastectomy? If I get into a car accident and become a paraplegic, or become permanently comatose? Picture one or all of these things: Are you willing to sacrifice your own interests to remain faithful until death?

John: Now you're getting way too dramatic. We're only in our twenties.

Jan: You're avoiding the question. How many people in their twenties today, including you, are willing to give that kind

of commitment?

John: Well, I'm certainly not ready for marriage, if that's what you mean.

Jan: But without that unconditional commitment it makes saying "I love you" a lie. Using each other until the physical or emotional high wears off, or until one of us finds someone else they like better, is not love.

John: That is so insulting! I can't believe you're saying this. I would never leave you.

Jan: We need to be realistic and truthful. There's a lot at stake here. How many people do you know marry their first boyfriend or girlfriend nowadays?

John: I don't know any.

Jan: And how many in those broken relationships thought it was love while it was happening?

John: Maybe all of them.

Jan: And how many needless broken hearts, broken lives, and hopeless cynicism does this all result in?

John: Well, I guess there are a lot of people who have regret and wished they did things differently.

Jan: Sure, and they often carry their woundedness with them the rest of their lives. Let's you and I do things differently. Since love is a free choice to permanent commitment, and since we're not ready for that, let's not talk or act like we're married. This way we don't live a lie, we respect our potential future spouses, and we keep ourselves from deep harm and regret.

John: Ah...well, okay. What you're saying seems to make sense, but I'm so confused.

Jan: Our culture forms us since childhood to believe that romanticism and lust are love. It manipulates for profit the emotions of women and the physical attractions of men. These natural desires the ancient Greeks called 'eros'. It's a kind of "need-love". Agape is unconditional selfless sacrificial love. Eros can be a good starting point, but without agape it quickly devolves into selfishness and abuse. Eros is the frosting on the cake, agape is the cake itself. It doesn't take too long to become ill if all you eat is frosting.

John: You mean young people are conditioned to believe selfishness and mutual abuse are really love?

EVESDROPPING: 21

Ye Gay Ol' Valley



What Banning the Transgendered in the Military will Really Cost

Dani Langevin
VALLEY PATRIOT LESBIAN COLUMNIST

In June of 2010, in the second column I had ever written for the Valley Patriot, I wrote about what "Don't ask, don't tell" cost the military. It read, "It is estimated that there are almost 70,000 homosexuals serving in every branch of the military. Since 1993, over 13,500 of them have been discharged, many from critical operations. The initial cost of these losses is the safety of our nation and strength of our military. The monetary cost is approximately \$363 million having been spent on 'separation travel' - recruiting and retraining replacements." Thanks to president Obama, that was changed, jobs were secured, as was our country's safety, and LGBTQ+ military members were finally given equality.

Last month, #45 (I will not use the title given to him per his election; he hasn't earned it) stated that he will "mercilessly ban transgender people" from serving in the military in any capacity. His reason is that it is costing the military too much to pay for their gender reassignment surgeries. Really? I decided to do a little research to find out just how much these surgeries cost the military. It didn't take me long to get the real bottom line and glean possible reasons for this ban.

There have been a few different studies/analyses on just how many transgendered people are in the military. According to a RAND analysis commissioned by the Department of Defense, there are between 1,300-6,000 transgendered persons in the military. I'm not sure why there is an over 4,000 count differential in this study. There was another study conducted a couple of years ago by the New England Journal of Medicine that found the number to be just under 13,000 active duty transgendered military personnel. So,

let's go with the big number to make 45's claim that it is costing too much to support their surgeries. If all 13,000 received gender assignment surgeries, this would cost the armed forces about \$4-5 million dollars in medical coverage. Sounds like a lot, I know. Keep in mind that many transgender people never have reassignment surgery or they've had it before entering the military. Let's do some real calculating. Remember back in 1993 when over 13,500 homosexuals were discharged from the military? Remember the cost to send them home, and to recruit and retrain their replacements? Let me remind you-\$363 million! 45's claim that it is just too costly to keep transgendered military members is mathematically inaccurate and fiscally irresponsible. By keeping these fine upstanding and courageous men and women in the military the country would save \$358 million.

So, what could really be going on? Every few weeks it seems 45 is either firing someone, they quit, and/or he's bashing a member of his staff, Congress or the FBI on his Twitter account. This has been met with 45 himself being bashed by many members of the conservative party. It smells like 45 is feeling the heat and is afraid of losing the support of his base. Is it possible that he believes that by targeting transgender military members he'll gain that support back? Statistically, his support base is not a group that embraces diversity of any kind. Another reason could be that months ago Pence, known for his disdain for the LGBTQ+ community and love of conversion therapy, was lobbying House members to pass an amendment that would deny healthcare coverage to the military's transgender population. He had Paul Ryan's support on this. They were both confident that it

TRANSGENDER: 23



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When “Journalists” Sell the Corrupt Swamp’s Narrative, Strange Things Happen

Bharani Padmanabhan, MD, PhD
MEDICAL CORRUPTION COLUMNIST

‘Strange things happen’ happens to be one of Stewart Copeland’s favorite phrases. It was the name of a song he released as Klark Kent around the time of Dutilleux’s film “The Rhythmatist.” Thirty years later it was the name for his book. I was reminded of it upon reading Sue Reinert’s muddled story in Marc Levy’s progressive newspaper, Cambridge Day. It is here - <http://www.cambridgeday.com/2017/08/01/doctors-7-year-limbo-since-patient-death-surprises-even-supreme-judicial-court/>

Sue called me out of the blue one day to inform me that I was the subject of her story and that she had some questions. Two main ones in fact.

Her first question was, how did I feel being responsible for the state’s opioid crisis and people dying from overdoses.

Linguists declare that language is a hologram. Sue’s question was a hologram too, containing as it did, the entire fake narrative that trained doctors are responsible for people purchasing heroin and fentanyl from illegal Dominicans and Mexicans. What is truly ironic is the fact that I have published columns about this pro-Sinaloa Cartel narrative, including actual reportage from Maura Healey’s fake summit. So, Sue’s question to me was a bit rich.

Naturally I informed her that had the one patient in question been allowed to remain my patient, he would still be alive today. His untimely passing was caused by the progressives throwing all pain patients out on the street. And he wasn’t the only one. The progressives also caused the death of a very dear friend of mine precisely because he was my friend. He was targeted. Dr. Daniel Debowy knows who I am talking about.

But the real question was the second one. Sue wanted to know why I would not sign the false confession written by the state medical board. Even through the telephone, I could sense her progressive brain go “Does. Not. Compute!”

An entire history is contained within the hologram of that question too. Progressives have always ensured their enemies are coerced into accepting that the

progressive way is the only correct way and that if you disagree, the problem lies within you, just waiting to be corrected in a re-education camp or in your very own Room 101.

For decades progressives always confessed their errors and other progressives denounced their colleagues and families. You always pleaded guilty and were grateful to The Party for the chance to correct yourself in the gulag. So when I refused to sign the board’s false confession or agree that the board is always correct, it was a real case of culture shock.

Marc’s newspaper revealed the essence of progressive journalists. They shill for those in power. Those in power in my case run Cambridge Hospital, have nothing but contempt for the patients of Massachusetts and steal from tax payers. The author mirrored this reality perfectly.

Ostensibly the author cares deeply about patients, but then strange things happen.

Firstly, Sue objected to Chief Justice Gants berating the board for not caring that their action had blocked a doctor from earning a living for at least three years. Sue complained strongly about the Supreme Court caring about a trained doctor and his rights. Strange things happen. I got the impression she preferred a participation, then and there, followed by ensuring my children became bricklayers, banned from attending a university.

Secondly, Sue refused to talk to my patients. Yes, the same person who accused the court of caring more about the doctor than the patients, then refused to talk to them. Strange things happen. My patients, who attended all the board hearings, remain appalled at her hanging up.

Then again, when you shill for those in power, their values become your values. “The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which.” - George Orwell

Bharani Padmanabhan MD PhD is a neurologist specializing in multiple sclerosis in the Boston area whose medical license was illegally suspended in July just to force him to sign a false confession. scleroplex@gmail.com

ROBIN’S KITTY CORNER

FREE KITTEN!

Robin Desmet
VALLEY PATRIOT KITTY COLUMNIST

“I am looking for a free kitten.” When I hear this statement I can’t help but cringe. My reply is always the same—“There is no such thing as a free kitten.” My statement is often met with doubt or displeasure. Then I usually hear a story about how so and so’s neighbor’s cat had kittens and they gave the kittens away for free. I hate to ask, but I always do: “Where are the kittens now?” Well, one of them died, one got out of the house and got lost, and the third one went to a cousin who gave it away to a friend.....and so on. More cringing on my part.

I don’t doubt that you can get a kitten for free, but is it really “free?” When you consider the cost of vaccinating and getting your kitten spayed or neutered, you are well over \$300. Add to this the cost of food, cat litter, and supplies, and you are way beyond free. Not to mention the basic fact that at some point your pet will invariably get sick or hurt and will require veterinary care. When you get a pet, you need to be prepared for the costs of your pet’s ongoing care and medical expenses. None of this will be free.

When I trap feral kittens in backyards and alleys, someone walking by may see a kitten in my trap. Oftentimes they will say “I’ll take that kitten.” When I mention that the kitten needs to go straight to the vet they will usually ask why. I’ll point to the eyes---crusted over and swollen shut. The kitten will need an antibiotic. It also needs to be dewormed, vaccinated, and of course spayed or neutered. None of this is free.

Quite often things that are obtained for free are not considered valuable. It can be hard to turn down an offer of something free, even if you don’t want it. Free kittens are often treated as disposable pets. They are an impulse item. They are passed around from house to house, and when they turn a year old they have committed the ultimate crime—growing up. They end up on the streets, in shelters, or with people who don’t really want them.

People often complain that the kittens at animal shelters cost money. Aren’t they trying to get rid of them? Shouldn’t they be free?

Well, that kitten has been tested for diseases so you can be sure you are taking home a healthy animal. It has been vaccinated, microchipped, and spayed or neutered. It has spent many weeks in foster care which requires food, cat litter,



and quite frequently, medication. All of which is paid for by the shelter. That kitten may have suffered an injury or required extensive veterinary care before being put up for adoption. All of this costs money. The fee you pay to adopt a kitten is very small compared to the time, effort, and costs that have gone into raising the kitten up to this point.

If you are in the market for a free kitten, why not consider adopting a fee-waived cat from the MSPCA? Unlike the free kitten you get from your neighbor, a fee waived cat has been vetted and has already been tested for diseases and received all of its vaccinations.

Bringing home a new kitten is a rewarding and exciting experience. Bringing home a healthy kitten that is already spayed or neutered and is free of worms and fleas? Priceless.



EVESDROPPING: FROM PAGE 20

Jan: Yes. Everything is about FEELINGS in our shallow, self-absorbed society today.

John: Then why aren’t adults – parents, teachers, doctors, etc., who should be protecting us from the snares of our immaturity – why aren’t they warning us and teaching us virtue?

Jan: Most of them were brought up in our throw-away “relationship” and divorce culture too. The sexual revolution made us stupid. We now have a responsibility to be David to the Goliath of our media and academia establishments who have conditioned all our peers how to think. Be bold and courageous. Only truth can set people free (Jn 8:32).

John: With your inspiration I’ll give it

a shot. We’ll speak first by our example. Thanks for sharing your insight. That’s something I “love” about you.



Dr. Paul Murano teaches philosophy at Rivier University and North Shore Community College and hosts Beneath the Surface radio show on 980 WCAP. Paul has a doctorate in marital theology, is certified in bioethics by the NCBC, and teaches adult ed. at St. Patrick’s in Nashua. He is founder of Heartbeat Pregnancy Help in Burlington, and is a singer-songwriter-musician. E-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com



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The Skinny On Gout Pain

Rick Bellanti
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

As a gout sufferer for almost 20 years, I thought I could shed a little light on this painful yet manageable disease.

Back as early as 1997, I was suffering from a severe amount of foot pain (more specifically my big toe and on both feet). It eventually got so bad that my toes became really swollen and red during this painful time; I thought I was suffering from a bunion and after a few days the pain would subside and eventually go away for a few months and then come back. Each time it would come back, it seemed to get worse. It made it hard to plan trips and vacations where you can do a lot of walking. I did all I could to help my “bunion” problem, until 2005 when the gout attack was so bad, I could no longer put a shoe on or walk normally, and at the time I was a Security Officer and walking was a major part of my job.

I made an appointment with a podiatrist and as soon as I walked in, his reaction was shock as he said: “That’s the worst case of gout I’ve ever seen”. This was the first time I had heard of the word gout and certainly not the last. He put me on two different medications and almost immediately the pain and swelling went away. I still take these two medications every day to keep my gout away or at least keep the attacks at a very minimal, because there is no cure but there is a way to keep it manageable.

So what is gout?
Gout is a form of painful arthritis and inflammation, and occurs when uric acid crystals build up and settle in your joints, some people experience it in the knees or elbows, most common is the big toe (which is where mine is). If you have high levels of uric acid in your blood it’s called hyperuricemia, your liver metabolizes the uric acid, and the kidneys get rid of it when you go to the bathroom. The levels of uric acid build up when not enough uric acid is eliminated or too much uric acid is being produced. Purines in our food which makes the uric acid levels in our blood increase, brings on gout attacks but also, heightens your risk for developing kidney stones.

When you are experiencing a gout attack you will notice the effected joint will feel hot, swollen, even turn red and will become very sensitive to the touch, the onset of pain will increase for 24-48 hours if untreated. Blood and urine tests are always recommended to measure the level of uric acid in your blood. Taking in fluids dilutes the levels of uric acid, so drinking at least 64 ounces of water a day

is ideal for breaking down uric acid levels to the point where gout pain decreases

If you are experiencing gout flare-ups, it could be one of a few reasons and risk factors; males over 40 years old, family members with a history of gout, obesity, aspirin medications, a diet consisting of high purine foods or high-fructose drinks, like juices, energy drinks and sodas and also consuming alcohol on a regular basis. Even though obesity is one of the factors, so is losing weight too rapidly, can also bring on an attack, if you are already suffering from high uric acid in the blood.

More often than not, it has to do with our diet and what we are eating. It’s best to stay clear of certain foods when you have high uric acid, have had gout attacks in the past or family members that have had it as well.

Those foods with high purine levels should be avoided at all costs such as: game meats, like liver, kidneys, goose, duck, pork and lamb, too much red meat and processed meats like cold-cuts, bacon, hotdogs and sausage are very bad. Canned fish like herring, anchovies, crab and sardines are very high in purine. Peanuts and peanut butter and anything with high fructose corn syrup or artificial sweeteners are best to stay clear of, or enjoy very small amounts in your diet (as long as you are not in the middle of a gout attack).

Alcohol consumption and Gout: Studies have shown that men who drank as little as 4 beers a week increased their chance of gout attacks by 25%, and those that drink at least two beers a day increased by two hundred percent. That amount jumps another 60% with a hard liquor drink although there have been no signs of increase among wine drinkers.

A clean diet of fresh organic fruits and vegetables, low fat milk and cheeses, eggs, brown rice and whole grain breads, almond butter (instead of peanut butter) drinking plenty of water to flush out those kidneys and medications prescribed by your physician will help keep flare ups from happening. During a flare up, 100% cherry juice or fresh cherries has been known to help with the pain.

Losing weight is a plus, so get out there and walk and get more daily exercise in. Burn some calories and eat smart and you’ll feel much better.

Rick Bellanti is a health and wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240 lbs, and has lost 160 lbs since the start of 2015. If you have any questions or comments, please post them to his Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti Facebook page and once a month he will address a few of the topics here.

No Other Name!

Peter Larocque
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Greetings my friends, I pray your summer is going well! Mine has been busy as I am sure yours has as well, between work and family. But when all is said and done, we really do have lots to be thankful for to our Heavenly Father!

I also find myself very thankful for God’s magnificent word. You see, God has not left us without an instruction manual. He gave us His Word, the Bible, to show us how to live life in this crazy mixed up world. We have the Good News, and according to Romans 1:16, we read the following from the Apostle Paul, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”

The Gospel of Jesus Christ, The Good News, is the Power of God unto salvation. Now it is up to us to believe it or reject it. For those of us who have decided to believe it, it is the power of God unto our Salvation, which means our deliverance, healing, and preservation and safety! The Apostle Paul also said that He was not ashamed of this Gospel! You and I as Christians should share in this same conviction of never being ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! No apologies needed for being a believer in Jesus Christ and one who enjoys reading His Word!

Recently we had a wonderful example of what I am talking about take place in the City of Lawrence at a Public Hearing dealing with the issue of the Legal Sale and Distribution of Marijuana. I am not going to take the time now to debate this, but I bring this Public Hearing to your attention because Christian believers or as we were called during public participation, “The Religious People”. It was said that these religious people were uninformed and misguided because they were not in favor of this issue becoming a law in their city. But there was one Pastor who stood up well prepared and spoke elegantly and with passion on this issue and made absolutely no apology for being a Christian believer!

I thank God, for Pastor Milagro Grullon of The Community Christian Fellowship Church of Lawrence; she represented The Christian Believers of Lawrence very well and received a great round of applause for doing so. Thanks again Pastor Milagro!

Next we read about the Apostle Peter in the Book of Acts, Chapter 4, after healing a man, getting arrested and jailed overnight and the next day placed in front of the rulers of the people and the elders of Israel. We pick up the story in verses 7-12, “And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this? 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, 9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the

impotent man, by what means he is made whole;10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. 12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

These verses sum up everything for us Christians because we just read that there is no other name given under heaven whereby we must be saved. (Meaning healed, made whole, rescued, delivered, preserved and made safe). Furthermore, this section of scriptures tell us why there is no other name given under heaven whereby we must be saved, which is that God raised him, Jesus of Nazareth from the dead! Can’t hear from Buddha, why, he is dead. Can’t hear from Mohammed why, because he is dead! Can’t hear from Confucius why, because he is dead! The only one that God raised from the dead and is still alive to this day is Jesus Christ!

There are those who believe otherwise and that is okay, it’s their prerogative! That’s what I love about our country.

People have the freedom to believe what they want and worship who and how they want as long as it doesn’t infringe upon other’s freedom to worship who and how they want.

In closing let’s take a look at Acts 1:10-11, “And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he [Jesus] went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”

That’s right! This same Jesus who is alive today is coming back in like manner, meaning Jesus is coming back for His Bride, The Church, and we will meet him in the air, and we will be forever with Him!! My friends, this is just another reason to never be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ! His return for us is another part of our Salvation, of our being made whole when our imperfect bodies will be changed to be like His Perfect, Glorious Body!!!

Philippians 3:21, “Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body , according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.”

This is our stand as Christians; there is no other name whereby we must be saved and there is “Absolutely Nothing to be Ashamed About!”

God bless each and every one of you in The Name of Jesus Christ!

Peter Larocque
peterlarocque@hotmail.com

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HERO: FROM PAGE 1

He would tell us stories about his childhood, when he would walk the train tracks daily during the winter in Lawrence to collect coal that fell from the trains to heat his house. He spoke about wearing government issued overalls and eating government cheese. He told us these stories to remind us to be humble (I missed that lesson), well-grounded and selfless. In his true fashion when we may be swaying from the straight path of life, these and endless other stories would suddenly pop up in a conversation. It was not for days that you would realize how he was guiding you back on path. My favorite story is how he walked to school and back home uphill both ways in snow as high as the telephone poles. This story I have used myself many times with my children. The moral of the story - Perseverance and Heart.

Dad was known for his generosity and his willingness to help anyone. He prided himself on spreading love and kindness. I remember working in his market on Broadway in Lawrence as a young boy. I had all the glamorous jobs, sweeping the floor, stocking the shelves and of course the best job cleaning the toilets. Each day was filled with hard work and determination and the lessons learned throughout these formative years have guided my sisters and I throughout our lives. The hard work instilled a tenacious work attitude and a customer service approach to work and life. One day when I was working at

the market, an older woman came in and I rang out her order. My dad yelled over to me to “cuff” the order. I was looking at him and I was trying to figure out how to hold all these groceries in the palm of my hand. He realized I was confused and came over to me and took a small metal box out from under the register and wrote the amount of the order on an index card under the woman’s name. At the end of the week he took out the cards and tore them up. I asked him what he was doing. He told me these were woman who had families and had lost their husbands. He said not to embarrass them he told them he will keep an IOU file for them to pay one day. This is just one of the greatest lessons my dad taught about selflessness and unconditional compassion and love.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, dad entered the United States Navy. He served as a Signalman aboard the LST 1011 in the Asiatic Pacific Theater and the European African Middle Eastern Theater. He was awarded four medals for his service. He was a member of the greatest generation and was proud of his service in WWII.

He was an avid fisherman and carpenter and his greatest love was his family and our mother who was the love of his life for 65 years.

I have wondered for years why I have a passion for guns. While reminiscing, I remember one of my fishing excursions with my dad. We were fishing at Plum Island and I landed my first Bluefish. My



dad was yelling don’t touch it, it has teeth. My dad took out his .38 caliber S&W revolver and began to beat the fishes head. He succeeded rather quickly. Of course, everyone fishing on the beach moved away from us.

One of dad’s qualities was perseverance. In 1977 he suffered his first heart attack which nearly took him from us. We are so blessed to have had him for an additional 40 years. He was a fighter; he fought through all his pain every day until his last breath without ever complaining. You



could see on his face he was suffering and we would say dad how do you feel? He would respond “I’m fine. How you are?” He did this for ma and all of us. He did so many wonderful things for his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. When he would do something for us we would say thank you. His response was always “for what?” He always felt it was a duty to do for your family.

He was such a humble man. Dad lived his entire life for Ma and all of us. Ma and dad have a love and true devotion to each other that made a great love story. He taught us to always take care of each other and ma. Dad, that legacy will carry on with all of us. We must also thank our mother for 35 years of unending care for our dad. She was the consummate nurse from the day he had his first heart attack, until the day he passed. They lived by the vows they made 63 years ago, for better or worse, in sickness and health!

It is now your turn to rest Dad. You fought a good fight and have left a lasting legacy for us all.

What amazes us when we think back is the LOVE of family. Our children have so much respect for you and ma, that even

our sons, grown men, kissed dad every time they saw him. It was an honor for them. Never a chore or a source of embarrassment, just a token of respect, of course our daughters did this as well but we all

know women are way more compassionate.

Family and Love is what the Solomons are all about. Ma and Dad’s love spanned over 63 beautiful years and they are our role models to live a full and happy life. Our parents were inseparable for as far back as we can remember.

Dad’s legacy of caring for others,

selflessness, pride, service, respect, caring, and comfort carries on through us each and every day. We are the lucky ones to have witnessed a love so great. It was this love that gave dad the fight to live this long because he never wanted to leave his family or the love of his life.

Dad you filled our lives with so much love.

We do not know what we will do without you. Our hearts are truly broken. We will always remember and cherish you.

We hope to be half the person you were. We will take care of mom for you.

Dad rest easy; we will carry on your love of family, until we see you again.

WE LOVE YOU
*Memorial Contributions may be made to the following non-profit charities, in Ed’s name: Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack Street, Building 9, Lawrence, Ma 01843; The Down Syndrome Program at Children’s Hospital 300 Longwood Ave Boston, Ma 02115, The Joseph Middlemiss Big Heart Foundation, P.O. Box 428 Dracut MA 01826 or Veterans Northeast Outreach Center, 10 Reed St, Haverhill, MA 01832.

TRANSGENDER FROM PAGE 20

would pass. When it didn’t, what better way to combat this embarrassing defeat than to get 45 to ban transgender people from serving in the military in any capacity whatsoever claiming that they’re too expensive. This is such a blatant act of discrimination and targeting, so much so, that they weren’t even insightful enough to check into the monetary impact on either side-their main reasoning for instituting it. It’s not about the money; it’s about singling out and bullying of a particular minority group, something 45 is very adept at and is not afraid to do.

Here’s some more proof that it has nothing to do with money. According to an online article by The Atlantic, “...the Department of Defense budget, as a whole, is expected to be proposed at \$640 billion. The F-35 cost \$1.5 trillion. Military bans cost taxpayers \$437 million,” and annually, I’m sure you’ve heard, the, “military spends \$84 million on medication for erectile dysfunction.” With all of this being said, there’s no way 45 is concerned about the cost of gender reassignment surgeries to the U.S. military’s health-care system or any cost to the taxpayers especially if we look at how many times he visits his resort in Florida.

I’m very concerned about what this ban

is going to do on his supporters’ psyche. After issuing his “travel ban”, America saw a spike in brazen verbal and sometimes physical attacks on Muslims. I have no doubt this will happen in the LBBTQ+ community. How are we to feel safe when the leader of our country has minimized the efforts of the very people who have volunteered to keep this country safe?

Come the end of this month I have to go back to my job as an educator and as the co-advisor of the GSA. What do I tell my students who recognize themselves as part of the LGBTQ+ community? How do I convince them that they are loved, accepted, and respected when the person who has sworn to, “Preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States,” has made it clear that to him and his base, that they do not fall under that promise? What this ban is really costing this country is our principles, dignity, and respect.



Dani Langevin is a teacher and has a Bachelors in Fine Art and Masters in Education. She has written four young adult novels, one of which is self-published. You can email Dani at dblankevin@aol.com

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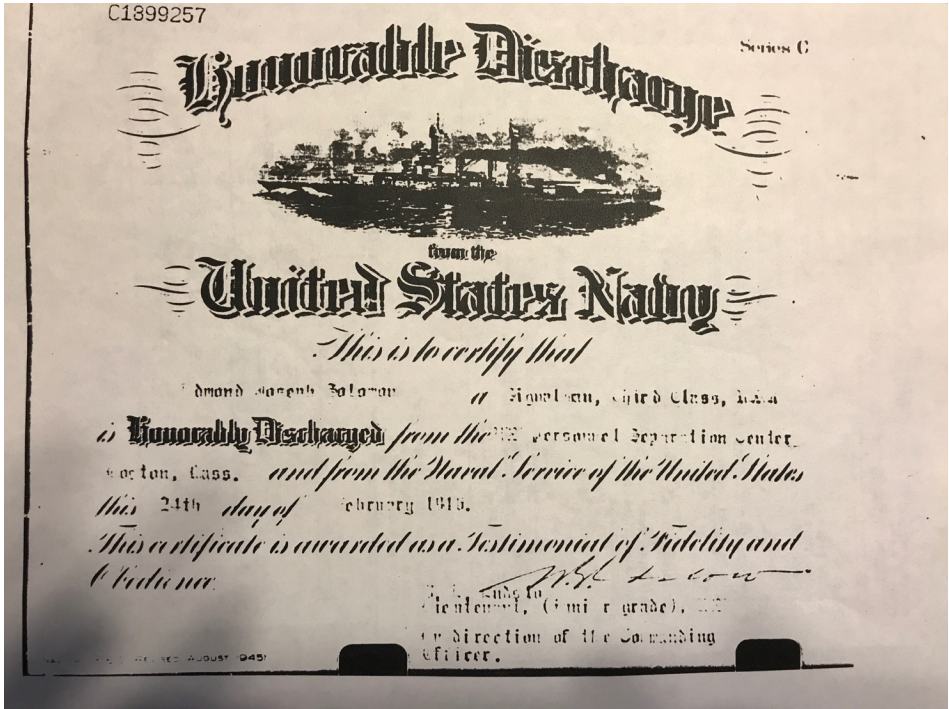
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LUNCHEON: FROM PAGE 9

selor Bob Cronin.

Local VSO's (Veteran Service Officers) were also present. Veteran Service officers are in every community providing support to our veterans. Newburyport's VSO Kevin Hunt is instrumental in helping his veterans and providing services for them. After my return from Afghanistan, Kevin was my VSO and was a huge help to me while I was still recovering from injuries. He provided supportive services and great advice. He showed me the importance of being there for a veteran during, what was for me a very difficult time. It was great to have him in attendance as well as Newbury's VSO, Karen Tyler.

The luncheon is for veterans and it was an honor to host it. We relocated the event to a venue that was drug and alcohol free. Through my work of helping veterans,

I've notice a lot of them battle with issues related to drugs and alcohol. I wanted to host the event in an environment that was friendly for all veterans and not problematic - and we did just that!

I would like to thank Fairway Mortgage for being the sponsor of this event. Also, thank you to Yankee Homecoming for hosting, along with everyone who volunteered their time and donated something to the event. But most importantly, I'd like to thank all the Veterans. If it wasn't for Veterans where would we be?

To every veteran - Thank you for everything you have done for our country. Thank you for your selfless service, your dedication, devotion and love for our country... THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

LAWRENCE: FROM PAGE 4

thing. As I learn what works and what others have tried I am fine tuning my approach to have the greatest possible impact.

Ana Levy:

Budget: This must be balanced at least twice a year to ensure that it is being applied equitably and correctly among all citizens. We must primarily ensure that it is not wasted on unnecessary things or purposely misused. We the public should be more educated on how our money is spent by the city.

Public Safety: This is a priority since in recent months we have seen an increase in delinquency and crime in our city. We must evaluate our police force and implement a functional and educational plan that

includes residents, the police, our elected officials, all private and nonprofit organizations and local and official agencies to achieve a more organized and secure city. Together We Are The Solution!!

Richard Russell:

I would like to see the City of Lawrence to better enforce all of the city ordinances or take them off of the books altogether and I would like to see that LPD is better able to protect the city at 'shift changes' by staggering 1/2 of the shift either an hour earlier or later than the rest of the shift. I would also advocate for the city to dispose of all of the parking facilities, garages and lots, to outside business interests; either by sale or lease.

DCF: FROM PAGE 2

Valley. Nonetheless, the goal is to find appropriate solutions where outcomes are better for children, police, and the community. At the meeting, NFI (the group home provider) and DCF explained how they are collaborating to improve customized "enhanced case management" plans for each child who demonstrates a pattern of leaving the group home. Moreover, DCF is examining ways to increase flexibility in how providers respond to children who have left the premises. They are evaluating policies on the time-frame for required reporting to police, as well as the related issue of whether it makes sense for all children residing at group homes to be categorized by default as at-risk for human trafficking,

which requires immediate reporting.

Youth in the DCF system are no longer with their families and endure trauma from exposure to domestic violence, emotional and sexual abuse, homelessness, abandonment, and other reasons. In recent years, the opioid epidemic has substantially increased the need for foster care homes. This roundtable was a productive step in identifying the problem and working together with all of those involved and impacted. Meeting attendees agreed that a follow-up meeting will be held in October to get updates from the group home provider (NFI), the Haverhill Police Department, and DCF in order to evaluate how these policies are working and whether the frequency of service calls had declined.

MORAN: FROM PAGE 13

"Now, 91 communities in Massachusetts voted against legalizing marijuana," Moran continued.

"That's 91 local governments that can take a vote right now to ban the sale of marijuana and reject dispensaries without a local referendum because their voters have already spoken on the issue."

Moran said that the compromise between what the house and senate wanted, lead to a very creative way to legislate a controversial issue, and added he'd like to see more local options like this in future legislation.

"The house wanted to give the issue back to the local governments. The senate wanted to have cities and towns do a ballot referendum to opt out. The compromise was to allow the communities that voted

against marijuana sales to ban it and give the communities that voted for it, a way to change their minds with a ballot referendum."

"We should do more legislation like this. Returning local control to cities and towns means the wishes of the voters are always being respected. I wish we did it like this more. Maybe we will."

Moran said that of the 13 members of the Black and Latino Caucus most are from Boston. "Yes, I'm the chair this session. And while I support my voters in Lawrence, I also represent two other communities. The caucus represents many minority communities that voted for this measure. So, we're simply giving them an opportunity to be part of the process and see the gains other communities are going see."

FOOD: FROM PAGE 5

destination for many throughout the City of Lawrence. Ray was able to expand his business and plan for long-term growth due in part to the guidance and support he received along the way. These included: branding, marketing, business development, food production planning, finance, accounting and developing a solid business plan. "This has been an amazing opportunity for me and my family. Not many startup businesses have a built in team that supports and advises them every step of the way. Now it's my turn to pay it forward and help other local entrepreneurs reach their dreams of restaurant ownership," said Ray Gonzalez.

After 7 months of incubation and mentor access, Ray is ready to transition Coco Ray's to a more permanent location in Lawrence's downtown area. Through a continued collaborative effort, Ray is receiving advice and guidance on next steps that include: site selection, a working business plan, lease negotiations, hiring staff and planning for the future.

RTK is launching a new search for Lawrence's next budding food entrepreneur who will occupy the Common Street location and expand upon the success Coco Ray's has established. Are you a food entrepreneur with a vision and passion to grow your business or are you an existing startup looking to expand? Maybe you have what it takes to be the next occupant at the RTK. For more information on how to apply for an opportunity to be a part of this exciting program please visit the Lawrence Partnership website at lawrencepartnership.org/rtkapply.

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FAIL: FROM PAGE 5

under \$27 billion dollars. Wells Fargo executives have also fared well, including the disgraced CEO and subject to claw backs, John Stumpf. Since 2010, those in the executive suites of Wells Fargo fraud, per SEC Form-4 filings, execs have sold their shares equaling just under two-hundred million dollars. It's not the over \$1.4 billion public insurer executives have cashed in since The Affordable Care Acts passage, but not a bad payday for being ostensibly a crime syndicate and sending Americans into economic ruin, all done with your elected politicians complicity.

Like most financial institutions, and especially the TBTF's of Wall Street, they do not discriminate; they are an equal opportunist when it comes to campaign and lobbying spending. Party affiliation does not matter. We have seen this right here in Massachusetts, including The Merrimack Valley where over the years Wall Street has laid waste to so many through their

crimes and our elected officials complicity which begs the question for Massachusetts Democrats: If Democrats are the so-called Party of the working class, where have you been? Given the criminal behavior of just this one corporate plunderer, it appears Massachusetts pols have unequivocally spoken; money usurps all, even if it comes at the expense of those they supposedly serve. Today's Democrats are nothing reflective of the past, today they appear to be satisfied with being deceivers and charlatans, preying on our fellow Americans' ignorance in the name of money from their wealthy donor base(s). This isn't to say Republicans are any better in this regard, they're not, but The Republican Party in Massachusetts barely has a footprint here.

Decades have passed since there have been any signs of a true "Democrat" from this state, but if there is one, preferably many, could they please stand up?



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Property Sales, Foreclosures for JULY, 2017 in Andover, North Andover, Lawrence, & Methuen. From Northern Essex Registrar of Deeds M. Paul Iannuccillo (All properties are listed in order; seller, buyer, address, and price.)

ANDOVER

Maher Realty Trust, Daniel & Hye-Young Plante, 77 Dascomb Rd., \$640,000.00
Shobha Raman, Richard & Stacy Rogoff, 11 Fossen Way, \$755,000.00
Bryan Mcgonigle, Alan Simoa, 19 Stirling St., \$420,000.00
Bryan Mcgonigle, Dori Howe, 19 Stirling St.,
Ptarmigan LLC, Criag Eaton, 152 Haggets Pond Rd., \$984,900.00
Ptarmigan LLC, Joanna Whalen, 152 Haggets Pond Rd.,
Collin & Liliana Roche, Ancon Revocable Trust, 100 1/2 Main St. Unit O, \$175,000.00
Peter & Jean Lemay, R. Scott & Kristina Par-rish, 7 Keystone Way, \$895,000.00
Alex Gambino, David & Ruth Roberts , 16 Balmoral St. Unit 420, \$235,000.00
Manny Hajj, Paul & Cynthia Fortier, 4 Mar-tingale Lane Unit 2, \$550,000.00
Maura Grimanis, Sheila Buckland, & Anne Sweeney, Edward Kalas , 285 North Main St., \$352,500.00
Maura Grimanis, Sheila Buckland, & Anne Sweeney, Natalia Resiak, 285 North Main St.,
Brian & Paula Keefe, Uyennhi Le, 44 Bailey Rd., \$530,000.00
Kelly & James Porter, Thomas Ocon-nell, Gabriela Lagattolla, 127 Haverhill St., \$350,000.00
Kelly & James Porter, Thomas Oconnell, Michael Christina, 127 Haverhill St.,
Charles & Deborah Gray, Timothy Flynn, 3 Shadow Lane, \$1,125,000.00
Charles & Deborah Gray, Jeanne Trogan, 3 Shadow Lane,
Edward & Debra Shields, Edward & Jamie Sloan, 4 Fulton Rd., \$639,900.00
Julie Mccullogh Mcdermott Trust & Arthur Mcdermott III Trust, Anna Lam, 68 Wildwood Rd., \$812,500.00
Julie Mccullogh Mcdermott Trust & Arthur Mcdermott III Trust, Thane Drake, 68 Wild-wood Rd.,
Marci & Anthony Jackson, John & Kristen Gobiell, 17 Flint Circle, \$811,551.00
Kanan Family Trust, Stillwell Family Investment Trust, 36 Martingale Lane Unit 18, \$485,000.00
William & Virginia Morrison, Mark & Kate Squillacioti, 13 Hartford Circle, \$585,000.00
Charles & Terry Nuzzolo, Nicholas & Jennifer Tzitzon, 30 Smithshire Estates, \$1,212,500.00
Lorraine C Arsenault Trust, Philip Bellenolt, 10 Washington Park Dr. Unit 7, \$175,000.00
Erik & Lauren Sullivan, Craig & Jillian Beck, 10 Dufton Rd., \$500,000.00
Kathi & Kenneth Sawka, Jonathan & Shawna Pierce, 28 Hemlock Rd., \$660,000.00
14 Elm Court Realty Trust, Robert & Sarah Liekweg, 14 Elm Court, \$450,000.00
JBM 2015 Trust, Ricardo Cardoso, 12 Black-berry Lane, \$845,000.00
JBM 2015 Trust, Jane Ardoso, 12 Blackberry Lane,
Cynthia Stack Trust, Ruthy Olney, 20 River St. Unit 2, \$299,900.00
Susmith Mukud & Melissa Mayo, David & Julie Erickson, 9 Arrowood Lane, \$530,000.00
Daniel M. Blythe, Minhui Liu, B5 Colonial Dr. Unit 5, \$178,000.00
Patricia Hodge, Samantha Pierro, 16 Bal-moral St. Unit 102, \$250,000.00
Jillians Way LLC, Greg Thibeault, 2 Jillian Way, \$759,999.00
Jillians Way LLC, Janine Lori Peabody, 2 Jillian Way,
Leslie R Kaplan 2014 Trust, Samuel & Le-anne Pollitt, 5 Cricket Circle, \$780,000.00
Steven & Alicia Griesmyer, John & Heather Scott, 62 Juniper Rd., \$550,000.00
Michael Nicolosi, Melissa & Samantha Tet-reau, 32 Mckenney Circle, \$382,500.00
Vanessa Dixon, Xiaozhou Li, 1202 Spring Valley Dr. Unit 1202, \$345,000.00
Vanessa Dixon, Jie Chen, 1202 Spring Valley Dr. Unit 1202,
Hong Ling Song & Qingcheng Zhang, Yin Zeng, 100A Brookside Dr., \$293,000.00
Lynda Dube, Cheryl & John Birch, Russell Stott, 37 Tewksbury St., \$454,000.00
Lynda Dube, Cheryl & John Birch, Kristen Devlin, 37 Tewksbury St.,
Paul Walsh, Mathew Reju John, 10 Lovejoy Rd., \$555,000.00
Paul Walsh, Thushara James, 10 Lovejoy Rd.,

James & Cheryl Maguire, Liya Fang, 5 Dan-delion Dr., \$844,100.00
Rayvon Realty Trust, Paul & Janice King, 7 Cailleigh Court Unit 7, \$649,000.00
Steven & Kathryn Nutter, Tiffanie & Justin Veiga, 101 Cross St., \$547,500.00
Peter & Kelly Quinlan, Pradeep & Jyoti Kedia, 8 Durham Dr., \$1,220,000.00
Susan & Felago, Peter & Kelly Quinlan, 66 Poor St. Unit 4, \$605,000.00
Paul Cronin & Kathleen Miller, Charles & Christine Yates, 4 Odyssey Way, \$820,000.00
Earle & Denise McQuaide, Cattle Crossing LLC, 6 Granli Dr., \$525,000.00
Robert & Anne Adamsky, Trung Duong, 207 Greenwood Rd., \$460,000.00
Robert & Anne Adamsky, Anh Nguyen, 207 Greenwood Rd.,
Jesus & Leigh Delacruz, James Johnson, 11 Argyle St., \$566,600.00
David & Eriko Mercure, Debasish Sasmal, 18 Dale St. Unit 10-A, \$434,400.00
David & Eriko Mercure, Sanghamitra Ghosh, 18 Dale St. Unit 10-A,
Rhonda & James Kapelson, Joseph & Mi-randa Kopinsky, 70 Lovejoy Rd., \$730,000.00
Roberta Pinta, Colin Engler, 20 Hemlock Rd., \$699,900.00
Roberta Pinta, Jenicka Hornung, 20 Hemlock Rd.,
Luis Valdez, Lauren Constantine, 87 Gould Rd., \$389,000.00
Elizabeth Harris Ross, Jacob & Elisabeth Tamarkin, 12 Forbes Lane, \$980,000.00
69 North St. LLC, Bioh Kim, 16 Boardwalk Dr., \$579,900.00
Joanne F Marden Revocable Trust, Michael & Julie Pabian, 144 Argilla Rd., \$599,900.00
John & Maria Ippolito, Nicholas & Christine Gagnon, 10 Granli Dr., \$1,000,000.00
Philip & Christine Yates, Jacqueline & Dan-iel Bento, 41 Cclark Rd., \$497,000.00
Peter & Lauren Aisenberg, Yanzhe Fu, 17 Cassimere St., \$840,000.00
Peter & Lauren Aisenberg, Yingying Zhang, 17 Cassimere St..

LAWRENCE

Alberto Nunez, Maria Helena Martins, 43 Winthrop Ave., \$435,000.00
Wawszkiewicz Family Irrevocable Trust, Discovery Bay Holdings LLC, 24-26 Boxford St., \$140,000.00
Steven & Emily Nahlik, Alejandro Perez, 104 Mount Vernon St., \$300,000.00
Karen & James Clark, Jonathan Rivera, 28 Hudson Ave. Unit 2, \$170,000.00
Nemer & Mouna Hbaiter, Juan Garcia, 59 Woodland St., \$264,900.00
David Broadhurst, Yudelka Paulino, 92 Bea-con St. Unit 1, \$94,000.00
Reynaldo Rodriguez, Maria Anziani, 29 State St., \$275,000.00
Reynaldo Rodriguez, Joel Noesi, 29 State St.,
207-209 Walnut St. Realty Trust, Nelly Sosa, 207-209 Walnut St., \$380,000.00
Barbara Victor Trust, Amy, Christian, & Dariel Marte, 19 Pilgrim Rd., \$305,000.00
Remberto Herrera Galdamez, Oscar Mahe-cha Diaz, 94-96 Market St., \$440,000.00
Sonya St. Pierre, Ana Morales, 2 Marie Lane Unit 2, \$190,000.00
Chantal Chunilal, Beatriz Encalada, 6 Holton St. Unit 1, \$164,000.00
Alexis Ortiz, Rosanilis Tejada, 76-78 Avon St., \$415,000.00
Lian Jiang Realty Trust, Charosky Ca-zado Guerrero, 312-314 South Union St., \$385,000.00
Lian Jiang Realty Trust, Juan Sanchez, 312-314 South Union St.,
Rafael Antonion Geron Imo Gonzalez, Juana & Emiliano Monegro Rosa, 13 Bunkerhill St., \$367,000.00
Richard Ramierz, Robinson Dejesus, 167 May St., \$156,000.00
Richard Ramierz, Raquel Cepeda, 167 May St.,
Felix Ovalles, Annabelle Lora Rodriguez, 93 Berkeley St., \$327,000.00
Felix Ovalles, Cristhian Santos Sosa, 93 Berkeley St.,
Essex Management & Realty Propeerty Inc, Oscar Abreu, 142-144 Dawes St., \$392,500.00
Essex Management & Realty Propeerty Inc, Teresa Quiliz, 142-144 Dawes St.,
Omerta LLC, Maria Alvarez, 1-3 Colby St.,

\$388,000.00
Philip & Celeste Decubellis, Pedro & Mary Cristian, 6-6A Hobson St., \$380,000.00
PM & LM LLC, A&M 341 South Broadway LLC, 341 South Broadway, \$712,500.00
Paul Fernandez, James & Elizabeth Sneed, 244 Mount Vernon St. Unit 2, \$97,000.00
James & Lisa Abdallah, Daniel Delloiacono, 187 Mount Vernon St., \$502,500.00
Claribel Catalina & Edgar Queliz, Ydalina Pena, 66 Bennington St., \$330,000.00
Claribel Catalina & Edgar Queliz, Carlos Mercedes, 66 Bennington St.,
Claribel Catalina & Edgar Queliz, Julia Mercedes Cabrera, 66 Bennington St.,
Victor & Argie Iraheta, Grisel Greene, 12 Wayne St., \$286,000.00
William Bigio, Mayoris & Miyalangel Gar-cia, 398 Salem St., \$225,000.00
Renov8 Homes LLC, Trio Investments LLC, 442-444 Lowell St., \$490,000.00
Ana Albarez, Gisela Mejia, 126-128 Han-cock St., \$364,000.00
Ana Mendez, Hildo Compres, 268-270 Ames St., \$355,000.00
Natalie Garcia, Angel Acosta, 20 Warwick Court, \$285,000.00
Natalie Garcia, Maribel Lozada, 20 Warwick Court,
Clarence Morse, Yolanda Aguayo, 89 Em-mett St., \$230,000.00
Clarence Morse, Miguel Angel Maldonado Lebron, 89 Emmett St.,
Select Properties LLC, WH Realty LLC, 331 Water St., \$400,000.00
Digna Johnson & Bellanira Baez, Jonathan Medrano & Natalie Hernandez-Medrano, 173 Newbury St. Unit 1, \$187,500.00
Elie Antar, Boston Pyramids Trust, 260 E. Haverhill St. Unit 1, \$90,000.00
Andrea Lister, Salvador Encarnacion, 19 Storow St. Unit 1A, \$200,000.00
Bernice J Potvin Revocable Trust, Andrea Lister, 36 Mt. Vernon Circle, \$305,000.00
Select Properties LLC, WH Realty LLC, 1-17 Holt St., \$1,200,000.00
Yanira Villa, Rafael Difo & Alaina De Difo, 23-25 Coolidge St., \$376,000.00
Broadway Realty Trust, Alfredo Paiz-Gatica, 401 South Broadway, \$242,000.00
Broadway Realty Trust, Maria Figueroa-Estrada, 401 South Broadway,
Jose & Zobeyda Nunez, Carlos & Maria Pena, 1-3 Elizabeth St., \$326,000.00
Michael Bonnano, Luisa A. Liberata De Santana, 5 Cyr Dr., \$305,000.00
JMF Realty LLC, Dario Gonzalez, 38-42 Rowe St., \$369,000.00
Eagle Real Estate Partners LLC, Brick-stone Phase One LLC, 452-454 Haverhill St., \$575,000.00
Charles Hope Co LLP, Alberto Nunez, 374-374A Haverhill St., \$60,000.00

Juan & Gloribel Gonzalez, Alexis Rohena, 3-5 Bennington St., \$350,000.00
Juan & Gloribel Gonzalez, Marieli Vasquez, 3-5 Bennington St.,
Berkeley Equity Partners LLC, Ashton Arms LLC, 131 Berkeley St. Unit 1-6, \$759,900.00
Fernando Medeiros, Davis & Nancy Benitez, 270 East Haverhill St. Unit 10, \$115,000.00
Adams Realty Trust, 423 Merrimack St. LLC, 275 Merrimack St., \$632,500.00
Berkeley Equity Partners LLC, Ashton Arms LLC, 135 Berkeley St. Unit 1,2,& 4, \$365,361.00
Victorian Place Realty Trust, Ashton Arms LLC, 137 Berkeley St. Unit 1-4, \$533,639.00
Miguel Aguilo, Luz M. Veras Martinez De Leiniz & Gladys Leiniz, 27-29 Arlington St., \$372,000.00
Bich-Ha Le, Josefina & Wilson Quiroz, 67-67A Inman St., \$370,000.00
Carmen Ortiz, Feliz Ortiz, 119-121 Margin St., \$397,000.00
Lois Walworth, Carmindo Romero & Erelinda Romero Padilla, 3 Westwood Terrace, \$380,000.00
Brien Builders of Londonderry LLC, Esperanza Garcia-Pina, 101-105 Oxford St., \$390,000.00
Brien Builders of Londonderry LLC, Jose Reyes-Perez, 101-105 Oxford St.,
Louis & Karen Perriello, Yuzhu Tao, 1200 Spring Valley Dr. Unit H, \$284,000.00
Louis & Karen Perriello, Yongguang Zhou, 1200 Spring Valley Dr. Unit H,
Jeannette Arce, Jose Cruz, 6-8 Perry Ave., \$333,000.00
Orlando Mora, Persio Gomez Rodriguez & Zoraya Gomez Ramos, 24 Highlawn Ave., \$397,000.00
Henry Le, Ramon Molina, 259 Andover St., \$376,000.00
Henry Le, Yrenia Lora, 259 Andover St.,
David & Carlton Trombly, Orlando Mora, 131 Woodland St., \$400,000.00
Catherine & Michelle Bertrand, Mari-luz & Claudio Gonzalez, 77 Oregon Ave., \$280,000.00
Kevin Houlihan, Dilia Espinal, 22-24 Boyd St., \$344,000.00
Kevin Houlihan, Delly Diaz, 22-24 Boyd St., Allison Michaud, Jesus & Leigh Delacruz, 97 Mt. Vernon St., \$290,000.00
V I P Development LLC, V I P Development LLC, 24-26 Avon St., \$391,571.21
Eric & Rachel Fonseca, Maria Mercedes, 8-10 Logan St., \$470,000.00
Eric & Rachel Fonseca, Antonia Francisco, 8-10 Logan St.,
Eric & Rachel Fonseca, Bielka Delacruz, 8-10 Logan St.,
Ivan Campbell, Dario & Mirna Mercado, 60 Kent St., \$252,000.00

CONTINUED PAGE 26



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Century 21

Property Sales, Foreclosures for JULY, 2017

CONT. FROM PAGE 25

Joan Delgadillo, Minerva Genao, 9 Grove St. Unit 1, \$165,000.00
Kimberlee Nutter, Kendrys Vasquez, 681 Lowell St., \$300,000.00
Kimberlee Nutter, Gladys Peguero, 681 Lowell St.,
Miguel Aguilo, Paula Ramos, 23-25 Eastside St., \$379,000.00
John & Kathleen Drew, Rolando Espinal, 51 Farnham St., \$255,000.00
HMP Caulkins Court LLC, Gregorio Villa, 1 1/2 Caulkins Court, \$450,000.00
Cristian Castro, Amanda Dibble, 160 Berkeley St., \$500,000.00

NORTH ANDOVER

Brothers of Order of Hermits of St. Augustine, Merrimack College, 111 Peters St., \$650,000.00
Jean Almonte, Sami Najjar, 57 Autran Ave., \$400,000.00
Robert & Lisa Webster, Lisa Webster, 84 Cotuit St. Unit 1, \$286,500.00
P. Douglas Grearson & Diane Crabtree, M Lorraine Kenney Irrevocable Trust of January 9 2006, 148 Main St. Unit A312, \$230,000.00
30 Wentworth Ave. Trust, Constance Marie Maffei Revocable Trust, 30 Wentworth Ave., \$415,000.00
Doina Sipos, John Kamal, 80 Millpond, \$377,400.00
Anand & Vidula Atre, Dev Raj & Younisha Dumre Chapagain, 9 Peterson Rd., \$475,000.00
Stephen & Mary Oneill, Anirudh Kumar, 81 Mayflower Dr. Unit 15, \$639,000.00
Stephen & Mary Oneill, Shilpy Chanana, 81 Mayflower Dr. Unit 15,
Francis Dawson Jr., Sheryl Kaplan, 68 Edgelawn Ave. Unit 7, \$40,000.00
Andre Luiz Balatka, Seraphine Mbuyi, 1475 Turnpike St., \$328,500.00
Andre Luiz Balatka, Sarah Ngarambe, 1475 Turnpike St.,
RDM Wellington LLC, Jong & Dana Kim, 52 Wellington Way, \$754,900.00
Harley Realty LLC, Brian & Gloria Paulsen, 2 Harvest Dr. Unit 205, \$220,003.00
William & Carol Murphy, James Pagiatakis, 15 Holbrook Rd., \$489,900.00
William & Carol Murphy, Colleen Stone, 15 Holbrook Rd.,
Karen & Salvatore Dibella, James & Rhonda Kapelson, 24 Chatam Circle Unit B, \$647,000.00
Ahern & Cristina Lippman, John & Erin Riccio, 275 Dale St., \$713,000.00
Messina Development Co Inc, Erin & Anthony Pizzimenti, 37 Wellington Way, \$749,000.00
Peter & Lana Schofield, Patrick Feeney, 220 Candlestick Rd., \$770,000.00
MDL Realty Trust, Yunjie Wang, 200 Chickering Rd. Unit 201B, \$300,000.00
Kevin & Stephanie Patterson, Anthony & Amanda Adamczyk, 951 Forest St., \$565,000.00
Freckle Internaatinal LLC, Yassaman Nickpour, 731 Johnson St., \$480,000.00
Paul & Meg Rokos, Dennis & Colleen Rizzi, 80 Windkist Farm Rd., \$799,000.00
Oza One Family Trust & N & N Oza Family Trust, Erik & Menghan Wen, 72 Jefferson St. Unit 55, \$224,500.00
Jonathan & Kris Kosheff, Sergey Bebenin, 295 Candlestick Rd., \$800,000.00
John & Donna Armstrong, Sandra & Sherri Dinush, 35 Evergreen Dr., \$622,000.00
Daniel & Rachel Hill, Kawtar Dakhama, 57 Cotuit St. Unit 2, \$365,000.00
Courtney Scruggs, Thomas & Isabelle Ingram, 1423 Salem St., \$675,000.00
James Pagiatakis, Natalia Outkina, 82 East Water St., \$250,000.00
James Pagiatakis, Grigori Khmyrov, 82 East Water St.,
William & Ramela Treddin, Regina Perimian, 30 Chatham Circle Unit B, \$649,900.00
Edward & Jeralyn Brown, William & Pamela Treddin, 6 Timber Lane, \$652,000.00
Bank of New York Mellon, James Costello, 213 Berry St., \$176,000.00
James Costello, 25 Hesper St. LLC, 213 Berry St., \$179,200.00
Scott Corbett, Kelly Corbett, 54 Fernview Ave. Unit 54FV-6, \$147,000.00
Robert Paglia, John & Meaghan Dupis, 31 Settlers Ridge Rd., \$570,000.00
Ethan & Lilian Wilcox, Ninielle Bushmich,

34 Sargent St., \$371,250.00
Ethan & Lilian Wilcox, Efstathios Kesaris, 34 Sargent St.,
Eric Krupnik, Glenn Schurter, 4 Harvest Dr. Unit 114, \$319,500.00
Eric Krupnik, Carolyn Mazzone, 4 Harvest Dr. Unit 114,
Gill Realty Trust, Parthipan Sundararajan, 61 Mayflower Dr. Unit 20, \$592,000.00
Gill Realty Trust, Shanmuga Priya Sachidan, 61 Mayflower Dr. Unit 20,
Tracy & Eli Fuchs, Dennis & Kristen Sherlock, 88 Weyland Circle, \$681,580.00
Sally J. Bament Revocable Living Trust, Whitney & Steven Liechti, 336 Boston St., \$660,000.00
L J Kmiec Jr Nominee Realty Trust, Neftaly Alvarez, 12 Ferry St., \$209,000.00
Caroline & Amine Hannache, Anne Drogoul Meehl, 31 Bradford St., \$460,000.00
Anil Kumar & Nancy Egbert-Kumar, Marjorie Prophete, 43 Wintergreen Dr., \$645,900.00
Anil Kumar & Nancy Egbert-Kumar, Issoufou Yacouba-Issa, 43 Wintergreen Dr.,
Dam Phu & Nguyet Oham, Mauricio Yurrita, 16-18 Saunders St., \$427,000.00
Dam Phu & Nguyet Oham, Emilia MacDonnell, 16-18 Saunders St.,
Ryan & Joanna Oconnell, Georgio & Mary Broufas, 70 Maple Ave. Unit 3, \$264,000.00
Edmundo Peralta & Sara Lopez, Ryan & Joanna Oconnell, 55 Brightwood Ave., \$435,000.00
Scottie & Billie Wyatt, Antonio & Allison Neves, 14 Puritan Ave., \$700,000.00
Danielle, Leslie, & Michael Tammaro, Danielle & Jeffrey Page, Valerie Leblanc, 4 Harvest Dr. Unit 312, \$254,500.00
Jacqueline Paquette, Ran Zhang, 33 Alcott Way Unit 33, \$385,000.00
Martha Dutton, Christopher George, 793 Salem St., \$563,550.00
Martha Dutton, Kelly Ann Anthony, 793 Salem St.,
Donald & Carol Cyr, Rocky & Kelly Brooks, 52 Bannon Dr., \$657,000.00
Anand Kularni, Stefan Arnold, 445 Boston St., \$557,500.00

METHUEN

Vincent Toohil, Vincent J. Life Est, 80 Davis Rd., \$75,000.00
William Silver, Nemer & Christian Hbaiter, 11 Bridge St., \$419,900.00
Adam Lamonica, Kevin & Christina Lefebvre, 34 Westland St., \$256,250.00
Kellie Ord, Arun Yannam, 21 Hampshire Rd. Unit 101, \$235,000.00
Kate Bialobrzewski & Mark Squillacioti, Lindsey Sheehan, 8 Birch Ave., \$300,000.00
Daniel Colpa, Thu Pham, 112 Ford St. Unit B, \$113,000.00
Edmund Daher, Alexis & Alexander Klimchenko, 12 Saint St., \$469,000.00
Toll MA IV LLC, Alan & Margo Sokolow, 56 Pine Tree Dr. Unit 137, \$559,616.00
Stephen Hayes & Kimberly Hayes-Hackett, Jean Edouard, 3 Josephine Ave., \$330,000.00
Stephen Hayes & Kimberly Hayes-Hackett, Mimose & Widelyne Loiseau, 3 Josephine Ave.,
Philip & Elizabeth Mobley, Salvatore Placenti, 24 Joy Terrace, \$334,000.00
Philip & Elizabeth Mobley, Shana Pappalardo, 24 Joy Terrace,
Leonard Michaud, Ana Surun, 16 Pond St., \$400,000.00
Leonard Michaud, Genesis Perez, 16 Pond St.,
Amjad & Suhair Kannan, Matthew & Sara Sandler, 6 Douglas Ave., \$361,000.00
Robert & Susan Mele, Victor Giabobbe, 30 Alexander Circle, \$386,000.00
Robert & Susan Mele, Karlene Wilkins, 30 Alexander Circle,
IDA P Bailie Revocable Trust, Lauren & Aleksandr Levitin, 44-46 Conrad St., \$344,000.00
Jana & David Dinatale, Jeffrey & Sarah Shattuck, 170 Bay State Rd., \$395,000.00
John & Jennifer Davis, Aicha Lotfoualla, 8 Thissell St., \$367,000.00
John & Jennifer Davis, Abdessalam Radi, 8 Thissell St.,
Jana Zanni & Vincenzo Pesce, David & Jana Dinatale, 5 Pine Tree Dr., \$635,000.00
Toll MA IV LLC, Vincenzo Pesce, 16 Pine Tree Dr., \$862,079.00

Toll MA IV LLC, Jana Zanni, 16 Pine Tree Dr.,
Donald & Patricia Cullum, Wijdan, Mahmoud, & Danah Rajab, 75 Elm St., \$445,000.00
Paula Wilkie, Tessa Mae Holden, 93 Weybossett St. Unit 1, \$250,000.00
Donald & Debra Descoteaux, Michael & Andrea Dangelo, 20 Coachman Lane, \$420,000.00
Justine A St. Paul Revocable Living Trust, Joseph & Sioban Collins, 6 Henry St., \$350,000.00
Kenneth & Wanda Larhette, Jonathan Vega, 6 Horne St., \$60,000.00
Sallyanne Geary, Meagan Harrigan, 3 Emsley Terrace, \$275,000.00
Sallyanne Geary, Bryson Geary, 3 Emsley Terrace,
John Orouke, Justine A St. Paul Revocable Trust, 45 Washington St. Unit F-31, \$235,000.00
Celeste Difruscia, Andrea Cote, 12 Sycamore Rd., \$400,000.00
Celeste Difruscia, Sandra Williams, 12 Sycamore Rd.,
Jeffrey Caira, Yudelka Acosta, 6 College Lane, \$410,000.00
Devaux Family Irrevocable Trust, Geraldine Wall, 30 Sherwood Dr. Unit 190, \$545,000.00
Catherine Sallese, Hilda & Rafael Colon, 95 Kenwood Rd., \$261,900.00
Ashton Arms LLC, Ashton Investment LLC, 11 Ashton Place, \$760,000.00
Anthony & Mary Ferraro, Nabil Hamdi, 78 Lorenzo Circle, \$320,000.00
Michael C Borislow Realty Trust, Lesley Dorgan, 45 Washington St. Unit P-73, \$249,000.00
Elliott & Dollie Scalzitti, Laurie Keegan, 68 Monroe Ave., \$355,000.00
Elliott & Dollie Scalzitti, Dawn Connelly, 68 Monroe Ave.,
Margaret Way LLC, Steven Pappalardo, 1 Margarets Way, \$499,900.00
Margaret Way LLC, Krystin Shamberger, 1 Margarets Way,
Scott & Linda Twomey, Joseph & Lorraine Foran, 2 Quail Run Dr., \$569,900.00
Alcro Development LLC, Charlene Newell, 1 Ashley Lane Unit 50, \$195,000.00
Toll MA IV LLC, Leslie R Kaplan 2014 Trust, 50 Oine Tree Dr. Unit 140, \$590,350.00
Mary Buck, John Adames, 10 Thissell St., \$250,000.00
Mary Buck, Michelle Yergeau, 10 Thissell St.,
Maria Mainini, Kamal Karibe, 2 Tennis Ave., \$335,000.00
Alexis Katramados Klimchenko, George Sfeir, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 3-201, \$235,000.00
US Bank NA TR, John Saba, 94 Boston St., \$156,000.00
Balsamo One Family Family Trust, Karina Pena, 177 Pleasant St. Unit F, \$168,000.00
Herrs LLC, Patrick Mcdaniel, 167 Oak St., \$256,000.00
Doucet Family Trust, Adalgisa Rodriguez, 13 Kimball Rd., \$310,000.00
Doucet Family Trust, Ana Lopez-Valdez, 13 Kimball Rd.,
Donna Moreau, Maria Martinez, 19 Francella Rd., \$269,300.00
Joseph & Brian Belfiore, Sima Mohamad, 57 Constitution Way Unit 57, \$175,000.00
Joseph & Brian Belfiore, Thoai Tran, 57 Constitution Way Unit 57,
Alcro Development LLC, John & Katherine Sokolski, 5 Ashley Lane Unit 48, \$579,900.00
Edward Clausen, Amjad Kanaan, 15 Birch

Hill Dr., \$552,000.00
Eileen Gilbert & Barbara Fleming, Lesley Gordon, 6 Bdford St., \$330,000.00
Janice Benrley , Joseph & Linda Ratte, 6 Anderson Dr., \$265,000.00
Heather Larkin, Kelly Butler, 15 Giles St., \$235,000.00
Jeffret Lemay, Gabriel & Nicole Pagan, 7 Jade St., \$322,900.00
Draco Homes LLC, Janes Folly LLC, 1 Mcgrath Rd., \$365,000.00
Draco Homes LLC, Janes Folly LLC, 2 Mcgrath Rd., \$337,500.00
Draco Homes LLC, Samantha Goon LLC, 10 Mcgrath Rd., \$337,500.00
Karl Romano, Peter & Gina Maynard, 180 Jackson St., \$275,000.00
Marrissa Wolfe, Keanita Burrell-Nanton, 96 Arnold St., \$310,000.00
Brian & Kathleen Brasseur, Justo Jimenez, 899 Riverside Dr., \$240,000.00
Sandra Viens, David Steinsiek, 49 Temple Dr., \$380,000.00
Toll MA IV LLC, Robert Klein, 60 Pine Tree Dr. Unit 135, \$652,761.00
Toll MA IV LLC, Julie Desrosiers, 60 Pine Tree Dr. Unit 135,
Hales Landing LLC, Robert & Caitlin Duffy, 34 Marjorie St. EXT, \$495,691.00
Kenneth & Donna Canning, Michael & Constance Welch, 7 Hill St., \$332,000.00
Daniel Koerner, Kenneth Geyer, 23 Olympic Village Dr., \$330,000.00
Sandra Viens, David Steinsiek, 49 Temple Dr., \$380,000.00
Sheila Kallery, Ingrid Castillo, 59 Davis Rd., \$284,900.00
Joseph & Carol Leach, Leith Martinelli, 14 Trenton St., \$485,500.00
Timothy Smith & My Nguyen-Smith, Ryan & Kristen Foley, 54 Woburn St., \$429,900.00
Jason & Rebecca Bonenfant, Mary Ann Bruce, 2 Concord St., \$440,000.00
Kerrie & Salima Dhanani, Steven Khoury, 8 Alderbrook Lane, \$445,000.00
Toll MA IV LLC, Rosa Attachi, 54 Pine Tree Dr. Unit 138, \$564,310.00
Robert & Karen Brewster, Sarah Hecht, 11 Hobson St., \$348,500.00
Robert & Karen Brewster, Miles Miller, 11 Hobson St.,
Sara & Marc Misuraca, David Silva, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 2-201, \$250,000.00
Percy & Sheila Cox, Timothy Smith & My Nguyen-Smith, 2 Cedarwood Dr., \$520,000.00
Joyce & Stephen Madonia, Howard & Kathleen Goodman, 21 Hampshire Rd. Unit 102, \$236,000.00
Elaine Dore, Eric Garcia, 945 Riverside Dr. Unit 10B, \$179,900.00
Mukumbi Brown, Hany Fadel, 25 Elmore St., \$350,000.00
Duncan & Cynthia Bird, Osacar Flores, 126 Camden St., \$265,000.00
Siva & Sugarna Thayaaparan, Robert Lopez, 18 Larchwood Rd., \$238,000.00
Siva & Sugarna Thayaaparan, Awilda Vargas, 18 Larchwood Rd.,
Philip & Francine Lahey, Leonard & Cathy Hoyt, 159 Woodburn Dr., \$365,000.00
Natalya Kuznetsova, Nelson Amandor, 20 Ferry Rd. Unit 10, \$360,000.00
Kamals Car Wash LLC, Two Baldwin St. CW LLC, 2 Baldwin St., \$965,000.00
William Simone, Gary & Marie Simone, 9 Simone St., \$130,000.00



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JAIME: FROM PAGE 18

raise and a promotion,” the mayor said.

Jaime says it’s a promotion he doesn’t want, and makes him suspicious of the timing.

“The Bellevue Cemetery has faced many issues in the last few years,” Rivera said.

“We had to make emergency staffing moves to ensure the safe and orderly running of the cemetery. I have had to take emergency measures in support of the Board of Trustees to keep the cemetery working effectively. Monday, the Board filled one of the two open positions and I, under an emergency situation, had to fill another. Greg Morris was assigned to run the cemetery for a year and his time has expired. He has done a great job. Jorge Jaime who is a Foreman of Parks has been assigned to replace him. He was the next logical person. I am certain he will do a good job. After a year, if the Board has not found a permanent superintendent, we will rotate someone else into the position.”

UNION GRIEVANCE

Jaime says that despite not wanting

the job, “I will do the best job I can for however long I am here. The foreman’s union is filing a grievance and has offered to protect me as union, so I will continue to pay dues even though I am being transferred to another position.”

“The rules of the union say that if there is a position available to fill, you have to go with the senior employee. So, that’s why they are going to grieve it. They think it’s political. I think it’s political. Why right now? Why now? I don’t understand. I’m running for mayor. I campaign after work, I don’t mix work and campaigning, and now he wants me to be in a non-union position where I’m not protected?”

Four years ago, Jorge Jaime lost a newborn. He says it was so difficult and sad. “I really don’t want to be around people, grieving for their child in the same situation I was in. I am in. I don’t feel comfortable right now dealing with that every day.”

Jaime said that he doesn’t expect the mayor to take that into consideration.

MAGLIOCCHETTI: FROM PAGE 13

we can identify them and know where they are. If they are trying to do the right thing, we should work with them.”

Magliocchetti also said that there needs to be a local, state and federal database for all criminals, “not just illegals.”

Where do you stand on taxes?

“At this point I wouldn’t support any tax increases. I think we need to be careful with tax increases because we are always in competition with New Hampshire. Haverhill is a border community. It’s a delicate balancing act in Haverhill. Being a border community is pretty harsh on the local economy.”

“One thing I will do if elected is immediately reach out to every representative and senator who represents a border community and say, our situation is very different. I proposed a tax free zone along the border when I ran for state senate, which was a graduated sales tax. The closer to the border you get the lower the sales taxes should be, so that we can keep some of that money from fleeing to New Hampshire. We could do it on big ticket items, cars, appliances, etc. I think that would help border communities like Haverhill.”

“As a small business owner, I personally know the struggles and the issues that small businesses go through. All my working life I have been responsible for making payroll. I’ve been responsible for paying those taxes, hiring and firing, getting people professional development, so I know first-hand everything required of a small business and all the obstacles and hurdles in the way. We have to look at how regulations for insurance impact

small businesses, because insurance costs are through the roof.”

“It is very important to have a vibrant and active downtown commercial district. We should have a tax free downtown zone in every community. The state’s savings in the community aid will offset what they lose. We have to analyze the financial impact, but, we need to be more efficient before raising taxes.”

EDUCATION

“One thing that has happened since MCAS and Ed Reform, there’s a major shift in taking power away from teachers and giving it to administrators. They are trying to manage education like you would manage business and I think that’s wrong. It’s the teachers in the classroom that are the front lines. They are the ones that understand the kids. They know what they need.”

When you have a teacher saying they need a certain kind of reading material to bring the kids up to speed, and the administrators say we don’t have the money in the budget, we have to address that at the funding level and give more power to the teachers in purchases and decisions being made in a classroom. After all, education is the one right we have in the state constitution.”

“When you compare my experience to anyone else running it’s not even close. I know people are excited about other candidates and their youth or ideology, but I have the experience to do the job. We need someone with the ability to secure as much funding as possible and I believe I am the best candidate for state representative for Haverhill.”

Attorney Arthur Broadhurst

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LEWIS: FROM PAGE 18

utes, but Jerry did a solid 40 minutes up there and he went through all his old stuff with a frantic frenzy that he hadn’t felt for many years. He had a blast!!

He was back on top, but a top of where he never thought he’d be.

My boss just told me I had to wrap this thing up. Jerry did a ton of country stuff and he played and still plays all his old stuff the way he likes to do it! His music is used in movies and on stage.

“Great Balls Of Fire” was all about Jerry and he was able to re-record all his music for the film. He was where a star likes to be. He won all the awards a Rock & Roller can win. He won Grammys; he has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He is in the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1986, and the list goes on.

There really is so much more to say about “The Killer,” but there isn’t enough room in this here column. I hope you enjoyed this one as much as I enjoyed writing it. See you next time, right here at



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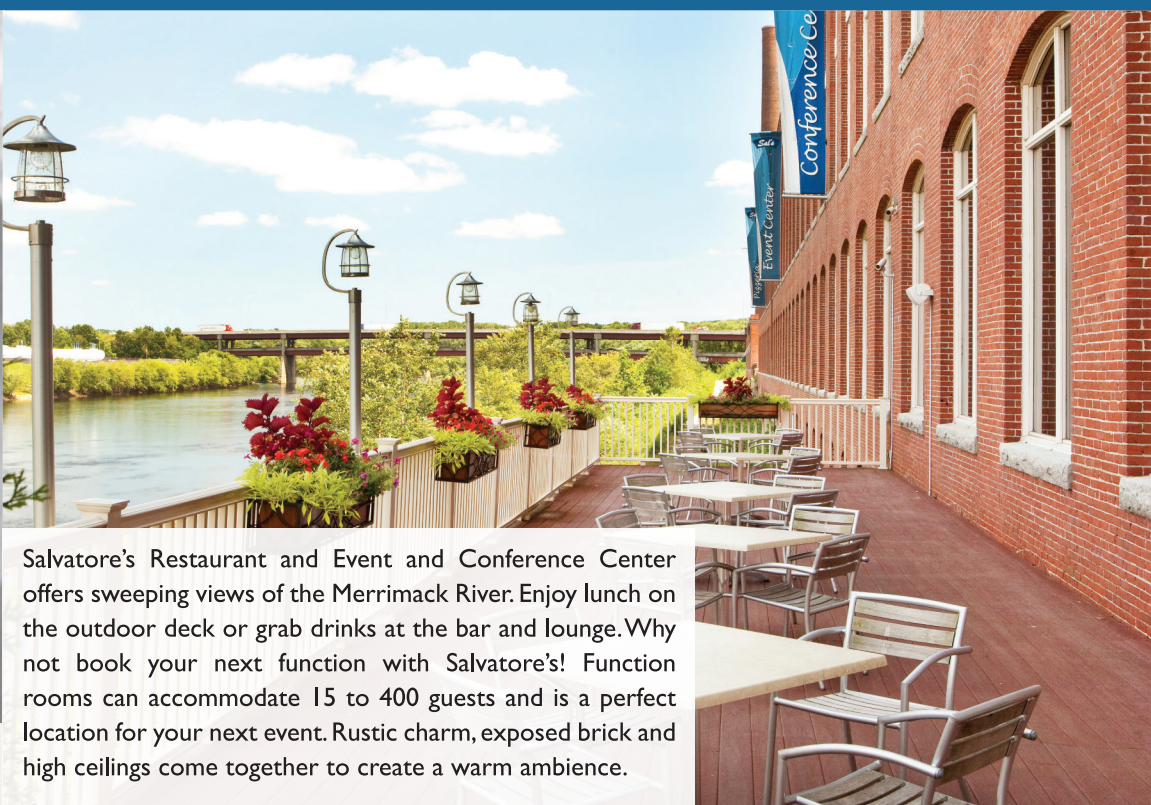


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